

**Genetic Genealogy: Beyond the paperwork**  
**DNA Test Check list**  
**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society**  
<http://www.sbgen.org/>

Before ordering a test:

- Have a clear idea of what you hope to achieve\* by testing
- Learn what current DNA\*\* testing can tell you  
International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) website: <http://www.isogg.org/>
- If you aren't a "good candidate", find someone to help  
Ex 1) To verify your family name line, locate a male relative with your surname
- Check the investment/reward ratio before ordering tests (you can always upgrade)
  - yDNA – Surnames, direct male line  
12 Markers (usually less than \$100) is very high level, mostly "deep" ancestry  
67 Markers may be unnecessary if you don't find any current matches  
**37 Markers is recommended**
  - mtDNA – direct female line  
HRV1 exact match: 50% probability of common ancestor in 52 generations  
HRV2 exact match: 50% probability of common ancestor in 28 generations  
**HRV2 is recommended; will help identify geographic origins**
- Select testing company  
Reputable testing lab, stable organization, large database, support and education  
SBCGS recommends Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) <http://www.familytreedna.com/>.  
Order your kit through our website <http://www.sbgen.org/>

\*Donations "for the cause" encouraged!

\*\*Science and understanding of DNA for genealogy is rapidly evolving

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Results are back, now what?:

Family Tree DNA testers

- Log on to your Account with Family Tree DNA Kit Number & password
- Find your "exact" matches at 25+ marker levels (yDNA) or HRV2 (mtDNA)  
Contact matches to suggest you compare notes (Note: only testers that signed a release form appear in FT DNA "match" database with e-mail addresses)
- Request to join (or view) surname or geographic projects and compare results
- Join YSearch.org and view results (Note: FTDNA results are transferred automatically; results from other testing orgs, must be entered.) You do not have to be a testee to view results
- Join MitoSearch.org and view results (Same Note as above)
- If successful, share and spread the news!
- If unsuccessful (no matches, at all)
  - Find (and persuade) other test candidates within your line, recommend minimum of 3 as far "up the tree" and then back down as you can go, verified with good paperwork
  - Wait and watch....DNA-based genealogy is rapidly growing

**! Log in to FTDNA from SBCGS website <http://www.sbgen.org/> and support the Society!**

Questions? Contact Ron Gibbons at [regibbons@juno.com](mailto:regibbons@juno.com) or Mary E Hall at [mehall2@cox.net](mailto:mehall2@cox.net)