

Genealogy Apps

The use of a portable device such as an iPhone/iPad or Android Tablet/Smart Phone can greatly enhance your family history research, as you can use them to directly record information, pictures and stories from relatives, and also record that information directly into your family tree. You can make an instant record of information you find at a record office or National Archive. There are now many applications to help you, many of which will run on either an Apple iPhone/iPad or Android Tablet/Smart Phone. The following articles mention and review some of the best: we have pulled out some of them, mainly free to instal which you might like to try, and also added some of our own favourites.

- 10 Free Genealogy Apps to Help You With Your Research
<https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/free-genealogy-apps/>
- Tracing your family tree? The 10 best apps to help you find your relatives
<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2014/apr/05/family-tree-apps-genealogy-laura-berry>
- 10 Cool Apps to Help You Do Your Family History
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/family-tree-app-cool-features/>



FamilySearch Family Tree

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Created by FamilySearch, this app offers a range of resources for searching, mapping and organizing your family tree. **Note:** new information that you upload or add to your tree will be made public so that other people can use it for their own research, but information about the living can be kept confidential.



Ancestry

[iPhone/iPad](#), [Android](#) and [Amazon Fire](#)

This works best when used with a monthly subscription to the Ancestry website. Individual family records can be bought by non-subscribers (up to £1.49 a document), which is useful, but the subscription allowing unlimited downloads is more cost-effective.



Treeview Mobile

[iPhone/iPad](#) and [Android](#)

The app is free but you need to sign up for a free Treeview account. This is recommended as a starter app, as it has an introductory video and then is easy to enter data, and go back and add/amend data. Family trees are easy to build and to view, even offline. There are three privacy settings and a function to create a fast family tree by connecting with relatives via Facebook. If you want to view historical documents, including census returns, wills and nonconformist records, you have to pay to subscribe via [TheGenealogist](#) website, but you would need to do that anyway, whichever app you use.

Eventually you may want to graduate to a more powerful/versatile package. You would do that by exporting a GEDCOM file and importing it into the new package. It is not possible to do that from the Treeview Mobile app, but if you access your Treeview account on their website you can export the GEDCOM file from there.



MyHeritage

[iPhone/iPad](#) and [Android](#)

A useful feature allows photographs to be incorporated. It has a good but basic facility for looking up records, but you need to pay a full subscription to view search results. It is renowned for its worldwide genealogy community, helping you link to relatives overseas.

Starting a new family tree within the MyHeritage app was difficult, but was easy to do if you log into your account on their website. Having started the family tree on the MyHeritage website, it was then easy to amend or add data or people using the app. It does not appear possible to export a GEDCOM file from either the app or the website, but oddly it is possible to import a GEDCOM file on the website.



FamilySearch Memories

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Another app from FamilySearch International, lets you capture and upload photographs and text: there is a record feature that lets you record family stories. It's the perfect way to ensure that future generations will have a genealogical record to treasure and can also be a great way to organize information from your older living relatives.



RootsMagic

[iPhone/iPad](#), [Amazon Fire](#) but not Android

Links with Dropbox and iTunes so that you can view trees and research logs created with RootsMagic desktop software. Gedcom files can also be converted from other genealogy software companies for viewing as RootsMagic files while you are out and about. Contains tools, including a date calculator, perpetual calendar, and relationship calculator.



Find A Grave

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Offering access to 120 million graves in half a million cemeteries, this app lets you virtually tour cemeteries looking for the graves of ancestors. Designed to help you search for family graves worldwide, but equally useful for those who want to share their findings via crowdsourcing. Add photographs of headstones and transcribe memorial inscriptions to build up the database. You can also request local volunteers to search for your ancestor's headstone in a cemetery. To maximise the results, use Find A Grave in combination with BillionGraves, another great app that's suitable for Android and iOS.



BillionGraves

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

With users' help BillionGraves is aiming to create the most comprehensive family history database of photos and records from all the world's cemeteries. Join their quest with the BillionGraves app to shoot and share photos of headstones from your own cemetery visits.



Otter: Transcribe Voice Notes

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Otter records and takes meeting notes for you in real-time, so you can stay focused on the conversation and rest assured that all information is captured and easily searchable. Record and transcribe interviews – very valuable to be able to capture valuable family history information from living relatives.



Office Lens

[iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Office Lens is an app developed by Microsoft which acts as an efficient document scanner on your phone, automatically straightening up the scanned image, and saving high quality images of documents on your phone, or into either your OneNote account, or any other destination. While the technology itself is not revolutionary (there are already several scanning apps) the functionality of Office

Lens is where the app shines. It is incredibly fast and simple to use, with a huge range of exporting options, allowing you to convert an image into a Word document and PowerPoint file as well as a simple PDF. It could be particularly useful to make an instant record of a document you find at a record office or National Archive.