

Genealogy Programs for the PC

This chart is just a starting point, to help you do your own research.

The list includes only programs for Windows. To find programs for Mac, DOS, Linux & Unix, see Louis Kessler's website at www.lkessler.com/gplinks.shtml

I did not include software published in Europe, Australia or elsewhere, just the USA and Canada.

I did not include any software for which I could not find the web site (and eliminated one program where there was a website but most of the links only produced error messages!)

I did not include programs in which your data stays on their website instead of on your own computer (but you may want this feature - there's a list of them on the Kessler web site.)

In the 2000 version of this chart I listed specific features, such as the number of people in a database and whether the program can import & export GEDCOM files. At that time I found large differences between programs in these basic features. I have not included those columns in this chart because they no longer are useful - all of the programs for which I could find details handle GEDCOM files, all handle a huge number of people, and most handle a variety of event types.

If a program has not been updated for several years I have included that fact, because it probably means that the publisher is no longer interested in the program, and may not provide any support.

"Shareware" means you pay on the honor system. You download the program and try it out, and if you decide to continue using it, the author trusts you to pay for it.

Most of the programs are downloadable - which means you don't get a CD or a printed copy of the manual. Some have a second price (usually \$10 higher) that includes a CD & manual.

Program Company	Web site Phone	\$\$	Comment
Agelong Tree v3.1.1 Genery Software	www.genery.com	\$40	requires Windows 2000 or XP or Vista
Ancestral Quest v12 Incline Software	www.ancquest.com 800-825-8864	\$30	uses PAF database
Ancestry Family Tree Ancestry.com	www.ancestryfamilytree.com aft.ancestry.com	free	designed for use with ancestry.com databases
BirthWrite 2.6 Richard McDonald	www.birthwrite.com	\$30	shareware. last update 2002
Brother's Keeper 6.2.73 John Steed	www.bkwin.net fax 616-866-3345	\$45	
Cumberland Family Tree v3.20 Cumberland Family Software	www.cf-software.com 615-647-4012	\$39	
Family History System Phillip Brown	www.familyhistorysystem.com	\$35	shareware
Family Matters v4.23b MatterWare	www.matterware.com 803-396-2011	\$35	shareware last update 1997
Family Software Famware	www.famware.com	\$60	
Family Tree for Dummies Wiley	www.dummies-software.com	\$20	new
Family Tree Heritage v 7.0 Individual Software	www.individualsoftware.com 800-822-3522	\$30	requires Win XP/2000/Vista formerly Heritage Family Tree
Family Tree Legends v5.0 Pearl Street Software	www.familytreelegends.com	\$30	
Family Tree Maker Genealogy.com	www.familytreemaker.com 800-548-1806	\$30 \$40	v 16 - Win 98/ME/XP/2000 v 2008 - Win XP/Vista

Family Tree Publisher Advanced Digitek	www.adigitek.com	\$40	last update 2001
Family Trees Quick & Easy v6 Individual Software	www.individualsoftware.com 800-822-3522	\$20	
Famtree v 4.43 Phil Sapiro	www.famtreesoftware.com	\$20	
Genbox Family History v 3.7.1 Thoughtful Creations	www.genbox.com	\$30	
Great Family v 2.2 Great Progs	www.greatprogs.com	\$30	shareware last update 2004
Kinship Archivist v 3.1.i Singularity Solutions	www.kinshiparchivist.com	\$10	shareware last update 2005
Legacy Family Tree v 6.0 Millennia Corp	www.legacyfamilytree.com	free \$30	Std edition free; Deluxe ed. \$30 (\$40 w/manual)
My Family Tree v 4.06 Huhnware	huhnware.com/genealogy.htm	\$20	last update 2004
Parents v 5.0 NickleWare	www.nickleware.com	\$10	last update 2005
Personal Ancestral File v 5.2 LDS Church Distribution Ctr	www.familysearch.org 800-537-5950	free	Very strong local users' group www.svpafug.org last update 2002 \$8.25 for CD and Companion chart printing program
RootsMagic v 3.2.5 RootsMagic Inc	www.rootsmagic.com	\$30	last update 2005
The Master Genealogist v 7.00 Wholly Genes	www.whollygenes.com 410-796-2447	\$34 \$59	2 versions: gold & silver. Local users' group
WinTree v 4.7 D.J.Cooke	www.wintree.plus.com	\$15	shareware; new

Programs which have disappeared since 2004:

Ancestry Family Tree
Family Treasurers
Lifelinks

I eliminated GenDesigner because the beta test version released in 2004 is still the most recent version

I eliminated Family Tree Journal because most of the links on the website produced error messages

Programs which disappeared between 2000 & 2004:

Ancestors and Descendants
Family Explorer
Family Origins
Family Ties
Family Tree Detective
Generations Family Tree
Kindred Konnections
Ultimate Family Tree