

Genealogy Relationships Chart

Many of us struggle with knowing where distant relatives fit into our family, especially when working on our family history, the following descriptions and the Relationship Chart below will help you to identify the relationships.

Cousin (First Cousin)

Your first cousins are the people in your family who have two of the same grandparents as you. In other words, they are the children of parents siblings, (i.e. your aunts and uncles children).

Second Cousin

Your second cousins are the people in your family who have the same great-grandparents as you, but not the same grandparents.

Third, Fourth, and Fifth Cousins

Your Third Cousins have the same great-great-grandparents, your Fourth Cousins have the same great-great-great-grandparents, and so on up the line.

Removed

Where you see the word "*removed*" describing a family relationship, it means that the people are from different generations. You and your First Cousins are in the same generation (i.e. two generations younger than your grandparents). *"Removed"*

is
not
used to describe your relationship, nor likewise with your Fourth, Fifth, etc., Cousins. The words

"once removed"

indicates that there is a difference of one generation. For example, your Father's or Mother's First Cousin is

your

First Cousin

"once removed"

". This is because your Father's or Mother's First Cousin is one generation younger than your grandparents and you are two generations younger than your grandparents. This one-generation difference is described as being "

once removed

."

"Twice removed"

means that there is a two-generation difference. You are two generations younger than a First Cousin of your grandmother, so you and your grandmother's First Cousin are First Cousins

"twice removed"

.

Using the Relationship Chart

Now that you have an explanation of what these relationship descriptions mean, have a look at the Relationship Chart below. It will help you figure out how the different people in your family are related, and the generational differences. It's easier to follow than it first looks, just follow the instructions.

- In the top row, find the relationship of first person to the common ancestor and follow the column straight down.
- In the left hand column, find the other person's relationship to the common ancestor and follow that row straight across.
- The resulting relationship is the box where the selected row and column meet.

View or download a pdf of the [Genealogy Relationship Chart](#) 14.68 KB as shown below

Click chart to zoom

Relationship Chart

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| Common Ancest/ | Child | Grandchild | Great Grandchild | 2 x Great Grandchild | 3 x Great Grandchild | 4 x Great |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Child | Sibling | Niece / Nephew | Grand Niece / Nephew | Great Grand Niece / Nephew | Great Great Grand Niece / Nephew | Great C Gran N |
| Grandchild | Niece / Nephew | First Cousin | First Cousin Once Removed | First Cousin Twice Removed | First Cousin Three Times Removed | First C Times |
| Great Grandchild | Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin | Second Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Second C Times |
| 2 x Great Grandchild | Great Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Twice Removed | Second Cousin Once Removed | Third Cousin | Third Cousin Once Removed | Third C Re |
| 3 x Great Grandchild | Great Great Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Three Times Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Third Cousin Once Removed | Fourth Cousin | Fourth C Re |
| 4 x Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Four Times Removed | Second Cousin Three Times Removed | Third Cousin Twice Removed | Fourth Cousin Once Removed | Fifth |
| 5 x Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Five Times Removed | Second Cousin Four Times Removed | Third Cousin Three Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Twice Removed | Fifth C Re |
| 6 x Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Grand Niece / Nephew | First Cousin Six Times Removed | Second Cousin Five Times Removed | Third Cousin Four Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed | Fifth C Re |