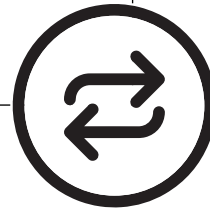


# Genealogy Basics

1. Start with yourself
2. Talk to relatives
3. Work backwards in time using forms
4. Have ready contacts for area repositories with records history
5. Consult public records
6. Cite your sources
7. Repeat



- **Start with yourself**
- **Talk to relatives**
- **Work backwards in time, use forms**  
(Pedigree Chart, Family Group Record)
- **Have ready a list of county and state repositories;** always aim for primary record
  - Monroe County History Center
  - Monroe County Public Library
  - Indiana University
  - Indiana State Archives
  - Local government agencies for records and history of significant dates
- **Check public records and histories;** always cite your sources
- **Repeat** formula for another person on your research list

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **1882** Indiana did not require records for BIRTH and DEATH be kept. If you are looking for a Hoosier before 1882, consult census records, marriage records, newspapers, church records, and wills.
- **1890** The US Census for this year was destroyed. Consult a librarian.
- **1940** If the person was born after 1940, know that laws limit access to some public records. Consult a librarian.



## Indiana Room Guide

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Monroe County  
Public Library

303 E. Kirkwood Ave.  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
(812) 349-3050