

## Genealogy Rocks!

### Genealogy Software Review

It's highly recommended that genealogists record their family facts into genealogy software for better organization. Early recording methods used handwritten family group sheets and charts, which was cumbersome, duplicated lots of handwriting, and required lots of storage space.



**Bob Larson**

Since genealogy software was introduced almost twenty years ago, many easy to use features have been included in the latest versions. There are over 30 genealogy software vendors for Windows PC and Apple MacIntosh computer systems. There are several genealogy software versions available for Linux, tablet and smartphone products. Some software versions are free, but deluxe versions sell for under \$50 with upgrades included.

The free versions offer the basic facts for ancestors, simplified citing sources, and provides several

charts and basic reports. The deluxe versions offer more features including automatic database retrieval for ancestors, worldwide detailed maps, advanced book publishing capabilities, advanced citing sources with images, many different tree charts, multiple expanded reports, family photo albums, DNA and GPS capabilities, tracking journals, multiple printing options, merging family files, and timeline history mapping capabilities. Detailed instruction books are also available for the more popular software packages.

If a relative has already created a family tree file, it's recommended new genealogists stay with the same software to properly import the same ancestor facts, photos, and other important information. It's also recommended that new genealogists don't import existing Internet based family tree facts into genealogy software until all the information has been verified. Many Internet family trees have incorrect ancestor facts created by other genealogists. For reviewing the top ten genealogy software for

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PC and MacIntosh computer systems, please visit <http://genealogy-software-review.toptenreviews.com>.