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Dear readers,In the intricate tapestry of life, theres something deeply profound about tracing our lineage, discovering where we come from, and understanding the branches of our family tree. Its a journey that connects us with our past, shapes our present, and lays the foundation for our future. Today, I want to delve into a tool that not only simplifies this journey but also adds a touch of creativity and organization: the Family Tree Excel Template.As the designer behind FamilyTreesCreator.com, my passion lies in helping individuals like you embark on this meaningful voyage of self-discovery. Among the plethora of options I offer, the Family Tree Excel Template stands out as a versatile and user-friendly tool. But its more than just a spreadsheet its a gateway to uncovering your familys rich history, one generation at a time.Upon downloading the template from my website, youll find a treasure trove of sheets awaiting your input. Whether your lineage spans five generations or extends to a remarkable ten, theres a dedicated sheet to accommodate your ancestry. Each sheet comes with clear instructions, guiding you on where to input the names of your ancestors, ensuring a seamless mapping process.But what truly sets this template apart is its inclusivity. Recognizing that family extends beyond direct bloodlines, Ive included a template for siblings sheet. Here, you can map out the intricate web of cousins, uncles, and aunts, enriching your family narrative with every connection made.For those seeking a visual masterpiece to adorn their walls, my website offers a myriad of beautifully designed family tree templates. From hand-fillable options to fillable PDFs and Corjl templates, theres something to suit every aesthetic preference and personal touch.Ive also curated a selection of beautifully designed family trees that you can download instantly, completely free of charge. Simply visit our free page and explore the variety of options available. Choose the family tree design that resonates with you and start your journey of documenting your familys history today.Yet, I understand that not everyone may feel adept at navigating spreadsheets or designing their family tree. Thats where my expertise as a family tree artist comes in. With a portfolio brimming with bespoke designs, Im here to bring your vision to life, crafting a masterpiece that encapsulates the essence of your familys story.So, whether youre a seasoned genealogist or a novice explorer, I invite you to take the first step towards unraveling your familys legacy. Embrace the beauty of your roots, celebrate the connections that bind you, and embark on a journey of self-discovery unlike any other.If you have any questions or need assistance along the way, dont hesitate to reach out. Im here to support you every step of the way.Warm regards,BrankaFamilyTreesCreator.combranka@familytreescreator.com Download Article Use Excel to make a hierarchal family tree chart Download Article Looking for a way to show people your ancestry? You can create a family tree on Excel using built-in tools like Shapes and SmartArt. If you want an even easier way, you can use a free family tree template. Here's how to make a family tree on Excel using your Windows or Mac computer, whether you have 8, 12, or 20 generations. To make a family tree layout, select the Shapes tool and click a shape. Draw the shapes you need, and then connect them with the line shape. Double-click the shape to add names. Alternatively, open a new Excel file and search for "family tree" in the templates section.1Click Insert. This is the tab at the top.You can manually create a family tree by using Excel's built-in Shapes and Lines tools. This allows more freedom when creating your family tree structure. If you have a more typical family tree structure, consider using a template instead. 2Click Shapes. You can find this in the Illustrations section. A drop-down menu will open with various shapes you can add to your spreadsheet.[1] Advertisement 3Select a shape. For typical family tree formatting, you can select a rectangle or oval shape. This depends on your own preference.4Draw the shape. Click and drag any spot on your spreadsheet to create the shape. The longer you drag your cursor, the bigger the shape will appear. Release your mouse when you have the shape you want.If you need to resize the shape, click it to make the options appear. Then, click and drag any of the circles inwards or outwards.5Enter a name in the shape. Double-click the shape to open the text field. Type any name(s) into the field.If needed, select the text and use the Font menu to customize the size, font, color, and more.6Copy and paste more shapes. Right-click the shape and click Copy. Right-click another spot on the spreadsheet, and then click the icon for Paste - Keep Source Formatting.You can also press CTRL + C (Windows) or Command + C (Mac) to copy, and then press CTRL + V (Windows) or Command + V (Mac) to paste.If you need to rearrange or reposition the shape, click and drag it.7Add more names. Click the shape to add a name. Repeat this for as many shapes as you need.8Click Shapes again. This is on the Insert tab. A drop-down menu will open.9Select a line. You can use a simple line or line arrow to connect your shapes together.10Draw your lines. Click and drag an area on your spreadsheet to draw your line. If you misplace the line, click and drag it so it connects your shapes together.You can copy and paste the line you drew, or you can continue drawing new lines by clicking Insert > Shape > Line.11Export your family tree (optional). If you want to print your family tree, you can export your spreadsheet as a PDF. Do the following:Click File.Click Export.Click Create PDF/XPS.Select a file location.Click Publish. Advertisement 1Click Insert. This is the tab at the top.[2]SmartArt is available on Excel 2007 and newer.2Click SmartArt. You can find this in the Illustrations section, underneath 3D Models. A new window will open.3Click Hierarchy. This tab is on the left, between Cycle and Relationship.4Select a style. When you click an option, you'll see a preview on the right. You can edit the colors and format later, if needed.Some styles have the option for photos.5Click OK. The blank family tree will be created.If you need to change its size, click it. Drag one of the circles inwards to make it smaller or outwards to make it bigger.6Click the arrow to expand the chart menu. This is on the left side of the chart.If you don't see this arrow, click the chart first. A panel will open on the left.7Enter your names. When you click a text field, the corresponding square will be selected. The text on the chart will update as you type into the panel.If the style you chose has a picture option, click the picture icon to select a photo.8Continue filling out the squares. Press Enter to create another square for a new generation. If you want to create a square that goes directly under another one, select the first square and press Tab.9Edit the squares (optional). If you need to move a square to change a relation, click and drag it to its proper place. SmartArt should automatically add a line to connect it to its nearest neighbor.If you want to edit how the squares look, click the SmartArt Design tab at the top, or double-click the chart. Select a new style, or click the Format tab to customize it yourself.10Export your family tree (optional). If you want to print or save your family tree, you can export your spreadsheet as a PDF. Do the following:Click File.Click Export.Click Create PDF/XPS.Select a file location.Click Publish. Advertisement 1Click File. This is in the top-left corner.2Click New. You can find this tab in the left panel.3Enter "family tree" in the search field and press Enter. You should see a list of results.4Click an option. This will open the template description and preview.5Click Create. The template will be downloaded, and a new spreadsheet will open with the new template.6Add the names. Click a box to open the text field, and then type the names needed. Repeat for all boxes.7Export your family tree (optional). If you want to print or save your family tree, you can export your spreadsheet as a PDF. Do the following:Click File.Click Export.Click Create PDF/XPS.Select a file location.Click Publish. Advertisement 1Use colors effectively. If you have a lot of names on your family tree, adding colors can help to differentiate and separate generations, gender, paternal and maternal lines, and more.Color schemes can also make your data nicer to look at, especially if sharing with your family.2Use a readable font. Microsoft Excel supports custom fonts. However, certain fonts can be difficult to read especially when next to a lot of other elements. Be sure to use a reader-friendly font style and size.3Adjust the print area before exporting. This can save time and effort when you're ready to save. Right-click the chart, and then click Size and Properties. In the left panel, expand the Properties header and make sure Print object is checked. Advertisement Add New Question Question How do I change the size of the text boxes? Select the text box that you want to enlarge. Click and drag the corners or the sides to enlarge the box. If you increase the size of the box, you may want to increase the size of the font as well. Question Can I download a template for a family tree on Excel? Yes, you can and it works well. Ask a Question Advertisement Written by: wikiHow Technology Writer This article was co-authored by wikiHow staff writer, Rain Kengly. Rain is a tech writer and editor for wikiHow with over 5 years of professional writing experience. In the past, Rain has worked with other creative writers as a Writing Tutor at San Francisco State University and has published gaming features, guides, and news articles for a variety of media outlets. Rain shares a lifelong passion for writing and gaming and is eager to grow alongside new tech inventions. This article has been viewed 729,774 times. Co-authors: 7 Updated: February 23, 2025 Views:729,774 Categories: Microsoft Excel PrintSend fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 729,774 times. Want to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11amET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished thanever.See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for yourvisuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportWant to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11amET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished thanever.See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for yourvisuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportWant to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11amET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished thanever.See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for yourvisuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS Report The Excel Family Tree Generator Template uses a format that wont suit many hobby genealogists. It is designed to work downward from one pair of grandparents. The tree can include their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. The default format has only enough room to display first names. Ill show you how to make the display work with first and last names. If you want an alternative that works with four grandparents and/or has more generations, Ill give some suggestions. But Ill also give you a step-by-step guide to get this tool working and avoid some bugs that I encountered. Here is a tree that I made with the generator. If you want a visual walkthrough of the generator, here you go. I cover the same points in this article. This template doesnt come bundled with recent versions of Microsoft Excel. But you can install it for free from within Excel. Follow these steps. Open Excel and create a new workbook. Click the File menu. Click More templates at the top right of the screen. Enter family tree generator into the search box. Click on the template in the search results. Click on the Create button. This search only returns one template so youre in no danger of picking the wrong one! Dont worry if youre not sure what youre looking at when the generator installs. Its not obvious but is simple when explained. The Create button creates a new Excel workbook called FamilyTreeGenerator. There are two tabs in the workbook: Family Members and Family Tree. The first tab is where you enter names for the family tree. The template comes with an example set of names. There are two command buttons at the top right of this worksheet. The Reset Family Members clears out all the sample names. It will also clear out any names that you enter so be cautious with its use! The Create Family Tree button does the magic. It uses the names entered into this tab to automatically draw the family tree in the second tab. Its important to know that you dont edit the tree in the Family Tree tab. Instead, you make your additions and changes in the Family Members tab. When you click the Create Family Tree in that tab, the tree is redrawn in this worksheet. Before I give a run-through of the best way to use the generator, Ill point out some of the limitations of the design. There are several limitations with the generator. The sample set-up and tree provided only has two grandparents: Glenn and Vange. The generator doesnt work with four grandparents. I tested this by entering two people below Glenn and Vange. But the generator ignores the extra pair when creating the family tree. Basically, the format was designed to work with one set of grandparents. The description for the generator mentions that it works with four generations. I initially thought that must mean it starts with myself and goes up to my great-grandparents. But it is designed to work the other way round. You start with a set of grandparents and the generated tree can go down to their great-grandchildren. If youre used to entering yourself and working upward, this tree will have you, your parents, and one set of grandparents. But youll also be able to add your own children. That may be just the format you want! The sample tree only uses first names. I tried creating a tree with first and last names. Unless the two names are very short, this does not display well with the current template. Here is the template with Thomas Postlethwaite and Mary Ford. As you can see, Mary squeezes in but poor Thomas is truncated left and right. My tip: the chosen font size for the name fields is set to 16. I found that reducing the font size for these cells to 10 ensured that the display showed both first and last names. Depending on the typical length of names in your own family tree, you may need to drop it down to 8. The example tree I showed earlier will fit on a single printed landscape page. However, the default tree with a new installation does not. I found that if there are more than three siblings in the generation below the grandparents, then the tree spills into a second page. This family tree mixes a vertical and horizontal display. Here is a part of the sample tree that comes with a fresh installation: This is showing that Walter married twice. His two wives are Jessica and Marie. The names in the green boxes are all part of the lower generation, despite the vertical format. They are siblings and half-siblings. I point this out because I initially thought that the vertical lines meant parent/child relationships. When I started using the tool, I edited the existing names and relationships in the Family Members tab. But when I clicked the Create Family Tree button, Excel crashed with an error. My advice is to start from scratch by clearing out the sample. This is what I describe in the next section. Pick one set of grandparents to work with. This tree represents their descendants. Enter the grandfathers first name in cell B10 and the grandmothers first name in cell C10. Enter the first name of their first child in cell E10. The first name of their spouse goes into F10. The third field is a drop-down that lets you pick their parents. You are only going to see the entry for the two grandparents that you entered. Enter the first name of their second child in cell E11. Once again, add a spouse and pick the grandparents in the adjacent cells. Repeat downward for the number of children that the grandparents have. Repeat the steps above for the next generation. If you entered several siblings in the previous generations, you will have more options to choose from here in the Parents dropdown list of column K. This is the final level. The big difference here is that you cant enter a spouse. Why? I dont know. This format doesnt make much sense to me. Simply enter a name and pick the parents of each person in this generation. This step is easy. Click the Create Family Tree button at the top right of the screen. This action switches to the Family Tree tab. You should see the names and relationships you entered in the tree format. If you try to save the generator workbook as the default .xlsx extension, you will get a warning message. This is because the workbook contains code. Instead of using the default extension, you should save it with either of these two extensions: Excel macro-enabled workbook (.xlsm) Excel binary workbook (.xlsb) Youll then get a warning message about personal information and a mysterious entity called the Document Inspector. You can safely ignore this message. I have several tutorials that walk you through building a tree in Excel that fits on a single landscape page. Each tutorial has an accompanying video if you prefer a visual guide. These trees assume that youre working from the bottom up. The lowest level is the first generation (possibly yourself), and the tree format shows all ancestors up to a certain number of generations. The generator tree displays in the classic vertical format. The only alternative that I can fit on a single page in this format is the four-generation vertical family tree in Excel. However, several more generations can fit on a single page when using the horizontal pedigree format that looks like this: Sample five-generation tree (our template) Take your pick from these tutorials: What is a Family Tree in Excel?A family tree in Excel is a digital drawing with photos and names of all family members, starting from grandparents, parents, aunts & uncles, siblings, cousins, and others, showing how each of them are related to one another. It can also show the family members gender, birth, and death dates, and the inheritance of certain traits or diseases.To create a family tree in Excel, we can use 4 methods. If you want to take your time and create a detailed and personalized family tree, choose these methods where we create a family tree from scratch:Method #1: Using ShapesMethod #2: SmartArtOr, if you want a quick and easy way to create a simple and standard family tree, you can follow these methods:Method #3:Built-in TemplateMethod #4:Photo Family Tree4 Methods to Create a Family Tree in Excel Lets consider a scenario: Alex, a school student, has received an assignment from his teacher to create his family tree in Excel. In this assignment, he has to include details such as names, relationships, and photos of his family members.Below are the details of Alexs family. Lets see how Alex creates a family tree in Excel using all 4 methods.Method #1: Creating a Family Tree in Excel from Scratch Using ShapesStep 1: Open a New Blank Excel Sheet, name it My Family Tree, and then:Click Insert TabFind the Illustrations groupClick on ShapesStep 2: Choose the shape of your choice to add the image of the first family member. The common shapes you can choose are square or oval.Step 3: Once you choose the shape, a + sign will appear on your spreadsheetStep 4: Drag the sign in your spreadsheet to draw the shape.Tip: To make the shape perfectly round, press the shift key as you drag it down. This can be useful if you want your family tree to have a more uniform and professional look.Step 5: Click on the shape, and a ShapeFormat Tab will appear.Step 6: In the Shape Format tab,Go to the Shape Styles groupSelect Shape FillClick on the light Gray colorSelect No Outline from Shape OutlineTip: We are choosing a light gray color so that the image can appear more clear, you can choose any color you like.Step 7: To add the name of the family member, we will create a box below the Circle shape. Go to Insert Tab> Illustrations> Shapes> Rectangle rounded corners.Step 8: Shape Fill the rectangle with transparent fill and a black outline (check step 6).Step 9: Then to add a name in the rectangle,Select Text Fill from WordArt Style GroupType the name GeorgeStep 10: To group both the circle and rectangle together,Select both the shapesClick on the Shape Format tabFind the Arrange GroupSelect the Group optionStep 11: Next, let us insert the image in the circle. For this, select the circle shape and click on the Insert Tab> Illustrations> Pictures> Place Over Cells> This Device.Tip: If you want you can choose and add a picture directly from your mobile phone or online website.Step 12: If you choose the This Device option, a Downloads section will appear. Here, you must select the image you want and then click on Insert.Step 13: As you click insert, the image is added to the Excel sheet. You will have to select and move the image over the circle. You can also group it with the shape (check step 10).Tip: To give the image a more enhanced look, you can remove gridlines from the View Tab.Step 14: Add Relation by creating a box below the name (Step 7), and add the relationship (Step 9) and group it (Step 10).Step 15: To create other family members,Copy the grouped shapes: circle, rectangle, and the imageThen paste these shapes wherever you want itMake changes to all names and replace their imagesLink them with a horizontal or vertical line (as we did for the grandmother below). To Insert a line, select Insert Tab> Illustrations> Shapes> Line.Result: The final diagram should look like the image below, showing all the relationships clearly.The grandparents have three children, Justin, Peter, and Diana, and all are married and have kids.Method #2: SmartArt MethodStep 1: Open a new blank Excel Sheet, click Insert Tab from the ribbon, and then click on SmartArt from the Illustrations Group. A dialog box will open.Step 2: From the dialog box, choose any design from the Hierarchy listed in the SmartArt Graphic and click OK.Step 3: The design will be inserted into the spreadsheet.Step 4: Right now, we have 5 boxes to add details of family members, if you need more boxes,Select one of the boxes,Right-click and select Add ShapeClick Add Shape AfterStep 5: After adding more boxes, the design will look as shown below.Step 6: Now, to start adding the details of your family, we first need to ungroup and group the overall design 4 times. Heres why:First, we will ungroup the entire design to ungroup only the boxes and lines that are connected as one image.We will again ungroup the whole design to ungroup each shape present in it. This will allow us to delete the lines and add images and text easily.Next, we will group the image box and the Text shape to move or resize the shape together.Finally, once we arrange the boxes as per the required order, we can again group the whole diagram together.Result: Finally, format the Family Tree by adding images, names, and relationships, as seen below.Method #3: Using In-Built Family Tree Template GeneratorExcel offers ready-to-use templates to help you generate and customize a family tree in just a few minutes.Heres how you can do it:Step 1: Open an Excel spreadsheet. Go to the File menu and click New to create a new workbook.Step 2: In the search bar, type Family Tree and press Enter.Step 3: Excel will display several templates for family trees.Step 4: Choose Family Tree Generator and click on Create to open it.Step 5: Once the template opens, you will see placeholders to add your family members names, relationships, and other details.Step 6: But first, you need to remove all inbuilt details; for that, simply click on Reset Family Members.Step 7: Start typing to add your family members information.Tip: To add the relationship below the name, press Alt+Enter, and write Grandfather.Step 8: To add more rows to any table, simply select the rows and columns and drag them down by clicking on the green square in the bottom right corner.Step 9: Add all your Family members details.Note: In the Parents Column, the in-build Excel Template already has a drop-down option where you can select parents names.Step 10: Click on Create Family Tree, mentioned above the table in the right-hand corner.Step 11: The Family Tree will be created in the next tab.Result: You can also format your Family Tree to give it a nice look by changing Font Style and Color.Method #4: Photo Family TreeFollow Steps 1 to Step 3 from the Method #3.Step 4: Choose Photo Family Tree and click on Create to open it.Step 5: A built-in Family Tree will open.Step 6: To make changes to the family tree, you can delete or add new boxes by copying and pasting the cells. Once you are satisfied with the overall design, you can start adding the names and photos.Step 7: We will use the cell border to add a line between the boxes (to show the relationship between the members).Note: Another simpler method is using the line shape (Method #1Step 15). However, copying and pasting cells for structuring can disturb lines. So, use a method that you find easy to manage.Here is how we can do it:Select cells where you want the line. We have selected E14 to E20.Click on Home Tab> Font group > Borders dropdown > Right Border.Step 8: Make the borderline thick,Select the cells (E14 to E20)Go to the Home tabClick on the Border boxScroll down to Draw BordersClick Line StyleSelect the thick line.A pencil will appear. Point the pencil on the line and scroll it down. This will make the borderline thick black.The thick border line will be clearly visible.Note: You can also change the line color, font color, and font style to format it according to your requirements.Result:Final ThoughtsCreating family trees is not just a project for school students but an important tool for professionals to organize a familys medical history. Traditionally, we used to draw family trees on paper, but with modern tools like Excel, we can create and organize family trees digitally. Whatever the purpose, Excel is an amazing tool for creating family trees easily and effectively.Recommended ArticlesIn this guide, we discussed how to create a Family Tree in Excel using 4 different methods. If you found this guide helpful, you can also explore some of the other useful articles: Browse all flowchart templatesBrowse all mind map templatesBrowse all concept map templatesBrowse all ER diagram templatesBrowse more web mockup templatesBrowse all BPMN templatesBrowse all org chart templatesBrowse all SWOT analysis templatesBrowse more sequence diagram templatesBrowse genogram templatesAn Excel family tree template visually represents an individuals lineage and genealogy through generations. And similar to an organization chart, the template has a tree structure, starting with the family head at the root level. Users can use the family tree templates in Excel to trace relationships to common ancestors and genetics and bring more clarity to their heritage. For example, the requirement is to prepare a family tree template in Excel. Then, we can download a free editable family tree template Excel from the File tab in the ribbon New tab. Choosing the highlighted option in the New tab will open the workbook Family tree generator1, shown above. It includes the Family Tree tab and another tab, Family Members, containing source data required to update the tree. Such a free editable family tree template Excel gives users access to predesigned and customizable templates available in MS Excel. On the other hand, we can create the required family tree template in Excel from scratch. For instance, we can enter the source data to view it in a family tree in the first tab, Family Members, in a workbook. And then, using the Insert tab Shapes option, we can prepare the family tree based on the source data in the second tab, Family Tree_Template_Example. The second method enables us to manage the entire workbooks design. Furthermore, we can automate and customize the template according to our requirements. An Excel family tree template consists of a chart displaying the lines of descent of a family. And it can include details such as the family members names, birth dates, and pictures. Users will find the family tree template in Excel useful in genetics classes and genealogical research. It also helps research a places history by finding the relationships between leading families. We can download the in-built, editable family tree templates in Excel from the File tab New tab. Otherwise, we can prepare a family tree template from the start using the Shapes and SmartArt Graphic options from the Insert tab in the ribbon. Excel VBA All in One Courses Bundle (35+ Hours of Video Tutorials) If you want to learn Excel and VBA professionally, thenExcel VBA All in One Courses Bundle(35+ hours) is the perfect solution. Whether youre a beginner or an experienced user, this bundle covers it all from Basic Excel to Advanced Excel, Macros, Power Query, and VBA. We can prepare a family tree Excel template using two methods, namely: Using Built-in Family Tree Templates in Excel This option offers users Excel family tree template free download. And once downloaded as an Excel Template file, one can edit it and add new modules, such as additional sections and macros, to fit their requirements. Create a Family Tree using the Copy-Paste Method In this method, we can use the Shapes and SmartArt Graphic options from the Insert tab to create a free Excel family tree template from the start. And then, we can copy and paste the shapes to build the rest of the tree till the specified generation. Let us see the two methods with examples. Learn to master formulas, automate tasks with VBA, build interactive dashboards, and analyze data like a proall in one comprehensive bundle. Develop hands-on Excel skills across all levels, earn a recognized certification, and gain practical knowledge thats essential for roles in finance, analytics, and business operations. Learn More Excel offers inbuilt templates, which are resourceful in activities such as budget planning and preparing calendars, invoices and balance sheets. And the tool also presents fully-automated and editable family tree templates. We can download them for free and utilize them as is or customize them to fit our requirements without working on the design elements from scratch. We shall see an example of an Excel family tree template free download to use the feature effectively. Step 1: First, open an Excel workbook and then, click the File tab New tab. Now, the New tab will open. Here, we must enter Family Tree in the Search field and then, click the search icon. Excel will show every free Excel family tree template available for download. Next, click the first template to select it. Clicking the required template will show its preview. Now, we can click Create if we wish to proceed with the chosen template. Otherwise, we can click the right arrow to preview other available template. Now, Excel will show the following downloading message when we create the template for the first time. Immediately, the workbook, Family tree generator1, opens. While the first tab in the template contains the source data required to build the family tree, the second one shows the family tree structure. The Family Members tab contains the cells where we must update our family members details to see in the family tree in the Family Tree tab. Furthermore, right-click the Family Members tab. Next, select View Code in the pop-up menu will show the embedded code, which makes automation possible. Step 2: Next, let us update the grandparents names in cell range B10:C10. And then, we must check and update all the cells where the grandparents names get referenced. For example, their names get referred to in cell range G10:G14. And thus, click the drop-down button in each cell in the range G10:G14 and select the new names. Step 3: Now, once done updating cell range G10:G14, click the Create Family Tree button at the top-right of the sheet. After we click the button, it will create the required family tree in the second tab, showing the updated grandparents names. And if we require to clear all the data and enter a completely new dataset. Then, click Reset Family at the top-right. Now, we will get the below warning message. Next, click Yes to proceed. On resetting, the entire table data gets removed. The Family Members tab contains instructions for updating and using the template. And the advantage of this method is that we do not have to work on the design elements, as the template is preformatted. So, we can now focus more on gathering the required family members details to publish in the family tree. Using the Copy-Paste method, we shall see how to create an Excel family tree template 7 generations. For example, we must prepare a family tree template showing seven generations, with each couple in a generation having two children. And each member has a spouse. Then, we can use the Shapes option from the Insert tab to create the tree root and copy and paste the shapes to build the tree. Step 1: To start with, select cell A1 and then, enter the Excel family tree template 7 generations title. And as we know that each couple in every generation has two children, we can plan the cells where we must update the family member details in each generation. Step 2: Next, select cell B87 and click Insert Shapes Rectangle: Rounded Corners Then, set the required shape outline using the Shape Fill and Shape Outline options in the Format tab. Step 3: Now, select the created shape and press Ctrl + C to copy it. Then, select cell B89 and press Ctrl + V or right-click on cell B89 and select the appropriate Paste option from the context menu to paste the shape in the target cell. Otherwise, select the shape. And while pressing the Ctrl key and left key of the mouse, drag the mouse to the target cell and release the keys to paste the shape in the target cell. Also, we shall have the rectangular shapes in pairs to update the family member and their spouse details. Step 4: Next, we must connect the shapes to create the tree structure. And for that, select Insert Shapes Line to insert connectors in the sheet. Next, format the line using the Shape Outline option in the Format tab. Step 5: Next, select the inserted line segment and press Ctrl + C to copy it. And using the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl + V, paste it into the sheet. And then, using the mouse, drag the line to the required position. Likewise, we can continue copying, pasting, and modifying the lines according to our requirements. Thus, the tree containing the first and second generations will appear as shown below. Step 6: Now, we can select multiple shapes in one go to copy, paste, and place them in the same order in the required positions to give the flow chart a tree structure. Step 7: Next, select the rectangular shapes and click Format Align Align Center to align the inserted shapes and then bring uniformity to the template. Thus, using the above-explained steps, we can build the family tree till the 7th generation, as shown below. Step 8: Next, select cell B2 and enter the text to indicate that we must enter the 1st generation family members details in column B cells within the rectangular shapes. Likewise, enter the respective generation numbers in cells F2, J2, N2, R2, V2, and Z2, to make the template more user-friendly. And on scrolling down, the family tree template in Excel will appear, as shown below. Step 9: Then, select one rectangular shape. Next, using the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl + A, select all the shapes in the sheet. Now, set Home Alignment as Middle and Center so that when we update the family member details in the tree, the text alignment remains the same throughout the template. Now, the family tree template in Excel is ready for use. Next, we can start updating the family members details by clicking the cells inside the rectangular shapes and typing in the texts. On the other hand, we can customize the template further as value additions to suit our requirements. A downloaded built-in Excel family tree template gets saved in the location, C:\Users\\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Templates. We can save the customized template in the abovementioned location. But the file type should be Excel Template when saving. Otherwise, storing it as a standard Excel file in the required location on the computer is also allowed. 1. How to create an Excel family tree template using the SmartArt feature? We can create an Excel family tree template using the SmartArt feature from the Insert tab.For example, we must create a 3-generation family tree template in Excel using the SmartArt Graphic feature. Then, the steps are as follows: Step 1: First, select cell A1 and enter the family tree template title. Step 2: Next, select the Insert tab SmartArt Graphic option to open the Choose a SmartArt Graphic window.Then, click the Hierarchy tab to open it and choose the Circle Picture Hierarchy template design. And click OK.After we click OK, it will result in the following diagram, where we can insert the family members pictures in the circles and mention their details in the adjacent text boxes. Step 3: Next, click inside the first text box and then, enter the required family member details.Now, set the required text alignment setting inside the text box using the Alignment option in the Home tab.Likewise, update the remaining text boxes.Next, we shall add the spouses details in the 2nd-generation. Step 4: Now, select the Father circle and choose Design Add Shape Add Shape After to insert another circle after the chosen shape.Next, update the mothers details as explained in step 3.Then, select the aunts circle and choose Design Add Shape Add Shape Before to insert a circle before the chosen shape.Now, update the uncles details as explained in step 3.Let us assume we do not want to insert the family members pictures. And we must correct the connectors to ensure the tree correctly shows the spouse relations in the 2nd-generation.We can do so by changing the diagram into shapes. However, we must ensure we build the complete family tree structure with all the required family members circles. The reason is that once we convert the diagram into shapes, Excel will not show the Format and Design tabs to make changes to the diagram using the SmartArt Graphic feature. Step 5: Next, click the diagram area to enable the Design tab, and then, choose the Convert to Shapes option.The diagram gets converted to a collection of shapes.Next, select the link connecting the grandfather to the mother, Cindy. And click the Delete key to remove it.And then, select Insert Shapes Line to insert a line segment required to connect the father and mother circles.Now, set the line settings using the Shape Outline option in the Format tab.And draw the line between the father and mother circles.Next, remove the line between uncle and grandfather, as explained earlier. And select the newly drawn line segment connecting the father and mother and press Ctrl + C to copy it.Now, use the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl + V, paste it into the sheet.And then, use the mouse to select, drag and place the copied line segment between the uncle and aunt circles. Step 6: Next, adjust the text boxes to make the family tree template more presentable.Furthermore, if we must make further additions to the family tree, then, we can use the Shapes option in the Insert tab. Our selection of printable family tree templates can be downloaded for free in PDF and Microsoft Word file formats. You can use any of the blank family tree templates to make your own version for your family members. A common way of visually showing the relationship between generations is to use a family tree. If you've ever wondered why it's called a family tree, the answer has to do with the way a normal tree is structured. While the roots are considered the ancestors, the branches are the children. One thing you have to keep in mind when making a family tree chart is to also allow the future members of your family to add their own names to the family tree. 6 Blank Family Tree Templates A family tree can provide a simple way of visualizing a person's family history and ancestors. The following blank family tree templates can help you with easily showcasing the members of your family in pleasant and original manner. Which Type of Family Tree Template Should I Choose? There are multiple types of family tree charts with the most popular one being the ancestor chart or ancestor tree. It's in ascending order, which means it usually starts from the bottom with the name of the person making it(you) and it goes upwards listing the parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and so forth, depending on the number of generations are required. Other types of family trees include hourglass charts, the starting person is in the middle with the parents and grandparents above and the children and grandchildren below. Another known one is a family unit history or family group record which details a couple's information including names, dates and places of birth, dates and places of death, marriage and their children. So if you're unsure or your school assignment doesn't specify it's best to go and pick one of the ancestor chart templates. 8 Family Tree Chart Examples Depending on how many generations have to be listed in your family tree we have chosen the most popular ones: 4 generation family trees, 5 generation family trees, 6 generation family trees and for those that need to go back further, 7 generation family trees. How to Make a Family Tree Template In the case of an ancestor tree your name(the name of the person making the family tree) should be at the bottom(or left) and the name of the parents, grandparents and maybe great-grandparents should expand upwards or towards the right. If you choose one our free family tree templates you don't have to worry about this because most of them are labeled. For a basic family tree the information you have to gather includes the names of your parents and grandparents. If you need to add your siblings then the names of your brothers and/or sisters are also necessary. For a multiple generations family tree the great-grandparents and maybe even the great-great-grandparents will be needed. If you're planning to make an extended family tree then the names of your uncles, aunts and cousins are required. 9 Sample Family Tree Templates Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Creating a family tree in Excel can be a fun way to visualize your ancestry. Its a relatively simple process that involves inserting shapes to represent family members and connecting them with lines to show relationships. In just a few steps, youll have a personalized family tree that can be easily updated and shared with relatives. Before diving into the step-by-step tutorial, its important to understand that creating a family tree in Excel involves using the programs drawing tools to manually add shapes and lines. Each shape will represent a family member, and the lines will show the connections between them. By the end of this process, youll have a clear visual representation of your familys genealogy. Open Excel and start with a blank workbook to create your family tree from scratch. When you open a new Excel workbook, youll start with a clean slate. This blank canvas is the perfect starting point for your family tree. Think of it as the ground on which youll plant your familys roots. Go to the Insert tab, click on Shapes, and select the shape you want to use for your family members. In Excel, there are various shapes to choose from. For a family tree, rectangles or ovals are commonly used to represent individuals. Choose a shape that you like and that will clearly display the names and any other information you want to include. Click on the shape and type the name and any other details, like birthdates or locations, for each family member. You can include as much or as little information as you want for each person in your family tree. Typically, names are the starting point, but adding birthdates and locations can provide more context for future generations exploring their ancestry. Use the Insert tab to add lines connecting the shapes according to family relationships. Lines are the branches of your family tree. They show how individuals are connected, such as who is married to whom, and who are the offspring. Make sure the lines are clear and accurate to prevent any confusion about relationships. Customize the appearance of your family tree by changing the color, size, and style of the shapes and lines. This is where your creativity comes into play. Choose colors and styles that make your family tree visually appealing and easy to read. You can even add photos or other graphics to personalize it further. After completing these steps, youll have a finished Excel family tree template thats ready to be filled out with your familys information. Its a living document that can be updated as your family grows and changes over time. Use different shapes or colors to distinguish between maternal and paternal sides of the family. If youre unsure about certain relationships, use dotted lines to indicate uncertainty. Save your family tree as a template so you can easily create new versions for different branches of your family. Consider adding a legend to explain any symbols or color-coding youve used. Keep a backup of the file in case of accidental changes or data loss. To print your family tree, go to File, then Print. You may need to adjust the print settings to ensure the whole tree is visible on one page. Printing an Excel family tree can be a bit tricky due to size constraints. Make sure to preview the printout first and adjust the scaling options as needed to get the best result. Yes, you can add photos by inserting them as pictures onto your workbook and placing them near the corresponding shapes. Adding photos can make your family tree more personal and engaging. Just keep in mind that the file size will increase with each photo you add, which could impact printing or sharing. Yes, you can save your family tree as a PDF or take a screenshot and share it in a more universal format. Sharing your family tree with family members who dont have Excel is thoughtful and inclusive. It allows everyone to participate in the family history, regardless of the software they have. You can add more generations by inserting additional shapes and lines as needed to represent new family members. As your family grows, your family tree will need to expand. You can easily add new branches to include recent births or newly discovered relatives from the past. Excel allows you to undo recent changes, or you can manually adjust any mistakes by moving or editing the shapes and lines. Mistakes are bound to happen, especially when dealing with a lot of information. Thankfully, Excels flexibility means you can quickly correct any errors and keep your family tree accurate. Open a new Excel workbook. Insert shapes for family members. Add family member details to each shape. Connect the shapes with lines according to family relationships. Format your family tree for a polished look. Mapping out your lineage with an Excel family tree template is not just a methodical exercise; its an act of preserving history and storytelling. Its a way to connect with your roots, understand where you come from, and pass that knowledge on to future generations. Whether youre a genealogy enthusiast, a parent wanting to educate your kids about their ancestors, or simply curious about your familys past, crafting a family tree can be a deeply rewarding experience. Remember, the key to an excellent family tree is accuracy and clarity. Take your time with each step, double-check your information, and express your familys unique story through the design. And dont forget to save your work regularlyafter all, you wouldnt want your digital family heirloom to get lost in the technological shuffle. As you embark on this journey of discovery, you may encounter surprises, mysteries, and a newfound appreciation for those who came before you. So go ahead and dive into the past; your Excel family tree awaits. Who knows what fascinating branches you might uncover?Matthew Burleigh has been writing tech tutorials since 2008. His writing has appeared on dozens of different websites and been read over 50 million times.After receiving his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Computer Science he spent several years working in IT management for small businesses. However, he now works full time writing content online and creating websites.His main writing topics include iPhones, Microsoft Office, Google Apps, Android, and Photoshop, but he has also written about many other tech topics as well.Read his full bio here.

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