



How to Hide Trees in Ancestry

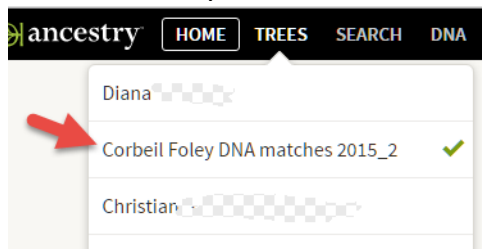
Making Ancestry Trees Private & Unsearchable

DNAadoption.com HIGHLY recommends making all research trees Private and Unsearchable. Hiding the tree you are using for research is very important. Individuals that have shared their tree or other info with you may get upset and stop cooperating if they find out you are making the info they provided you publicly available. Additionally, if you are building out the trees of matches without their knowledge, which you will likely have to do, your matches may view it as an invasion of their privacy and never cooperate or respond when you need them to.

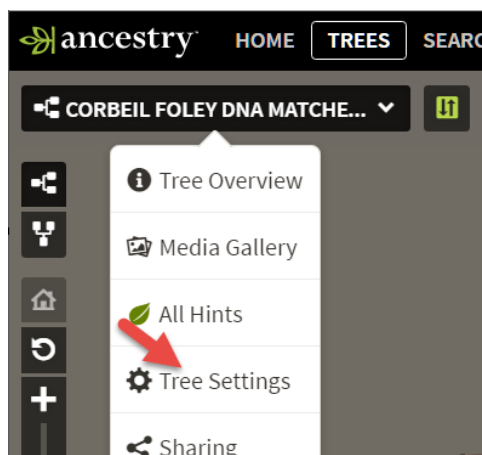
Hidden trees will still get all the same information, hints, and matches that public and private trees receive. They just can't be seen by others.

The following steps assume the tree you are going to hide is already started. If it isn't, you need to start it first then hide it immediately.

- 1) Select the tree you wish to make changes to.



- 2) Once it is open click "▼" down arrow next to it's name and select "Tree Settings" for that tree.





- 3) Click on the "Privacy Settings" on the Tree Settings page. Click on "Private Tree", ensure the button fills in. Click on "Also prevent your tree from being found in searches." ensuring the box is checked.

Tree Settings

TREE INFO | **PRIVACY SETTINGS** | SHARING

i You can control who sees your family tree. Please select the level of privacy you are comfortable with. For more information about Ancestry privacy and sharing policies, please read our [Privacy Philosophy](#).

Public Tree

This setting allows other users to view all content in your tree—except information about living individuals and private notes. If you change your mind, you can make your tree private at any time.

Public trees benefit you and the community

- Through public trees you may find others who are researching your family and even collaborate with them.
- You can help other members of Ancestry sites discover information about their relatives, and they can get in touch with you using our anonymous member-to-member email service.

All personal information is protected

- Information about living people is automatically hidden and will NOT be included in searches.
- Only you can edit your tree unless you specifically invite others to work with you.

Private Tree

This setting allows you to keep your tree "private" so that other users cannot view the contents of your tree.

What does "private" mean?

Limited information about deceased individuals in your tree (name, birth year, and birthplace) will still appear in Ancestry search results. However, no one can view your actual tree without your permission. If another member wants to view your tree, they can contact you anonymously through our Connection Service to request more information. Keep in mind that these individuals may also have helpful information to share with you.

Also prevent your tree from being found in searches.

Note: Although your privacy setting will change immediately to public or private, it usually takes about a month for this update to be reflected in the search index.

SAVE CHANGES

- 4) Click on Save Changes

- 5) All Done!