

What If My Tree Is Full?

If you have a family tree that has been worked on for many years, by many people, it can be a little tricky to find ancestors to add to your tree.

TIPS FOR SEARCHING:

Look for people with these criteria:

- **Male names** - easier to follow; don't change with marriage
- **Distinct name** – avoid common names where there are many records with the same name, but they are different people
- **Early 1800s** – many records available if you go back to the early 1800s
- **United States** – east coast, south, northeast have pockets not yet found

WHERE TO START THE SEARCH:

- Scroll through your pedigree looking for those with missing relatives
- Look at siblings of direct ancestors – have their families been added?
- **www.puzzilla.org** - watch the first 4 – 5 minutes of the tutorial on this; you only need the “Free” version; allows you to see cousin lines

WHO MIGHT BE MISSING:

- Missing parents
- Missing children
- Missing spouses
- Missing in-laws (parents and siblings of spouse)
- Family of a second spouse

Once you identify those that are missing, search for them on sites like www.familysearch.org www.ancestry.com www.findagrave.com