


One method of using the DNA Marker Fact Field in Family Tree Maker

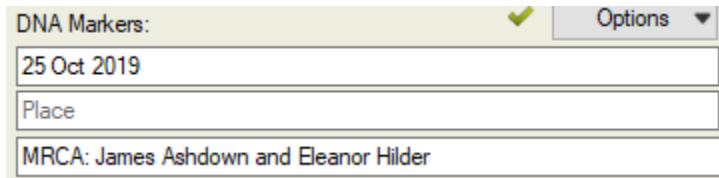
This is how I use the field. The intention here is to give you ideas about how you can use it. It is not meant to be a definitive “How to” document.

1. Open the FTM entry for your DNA match and click on the Person tab



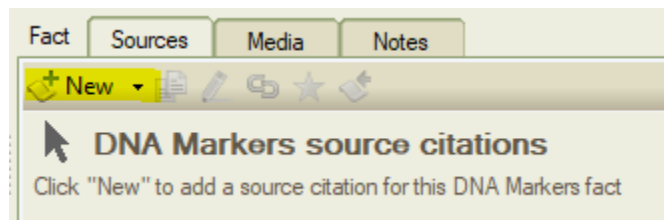
2. Click on the plus sign  and scroll down the list of fact names until you find DNA Markers. This is a standard field in FTM for both 2017 and 2019 versions. Click to add this fact to your person record.
3. Add the date (today's date is fine as it is the date on which you are formally recording the information). Place is left blank - it is a standard field in almost all FTM fact fields but it is irrelevant in this context.

4. In description add the names of the most recent common ancestral couple (MRCA).

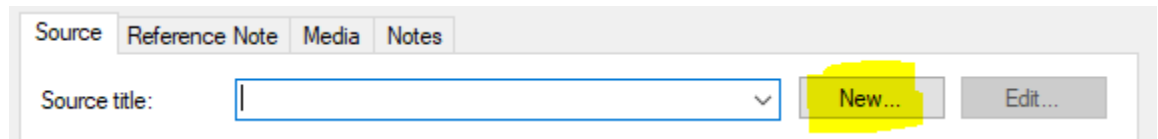
A screenshot of the 'DNA Markers' fact field in Family Tree Maker. The field has a title 'DNA Markers:' with a green checkmark and an 'Options' dropdown menu. Below the title are three input fields: the first contains '25 Oct 2019', the second is labeled 'Place' and is empty, and the third is labeled 'MRCA: James Ashdown and Eleanor Hilder'.

If you are unsure of the MRCA add TBC (to be confirmed); if it is a half relationship the MRCA will be only one person, although you could go one generation further out to the first couple; if it is double cousin add both sets of names with any type of notation that makes it clear to you what you are recording. The field is free text but keep it simple enough to ensure that others will understand if they are reading it.

5. The next step is to create a source citation for the DNA match. The first time you do this you will need to create a master source for each of the DNA testing companies. Let's just start with one and you can do the rest just adjusting the necessary fields to suit the company that is providing the result.
 - a. Click New and then select Add new source citation or simply Ctrl+s to create a new source.

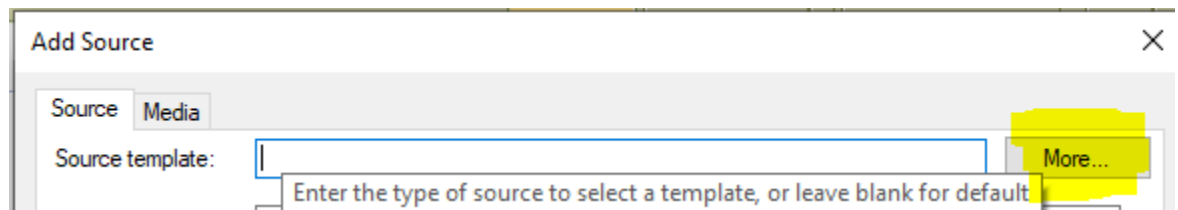


- b. At Source Title, click New



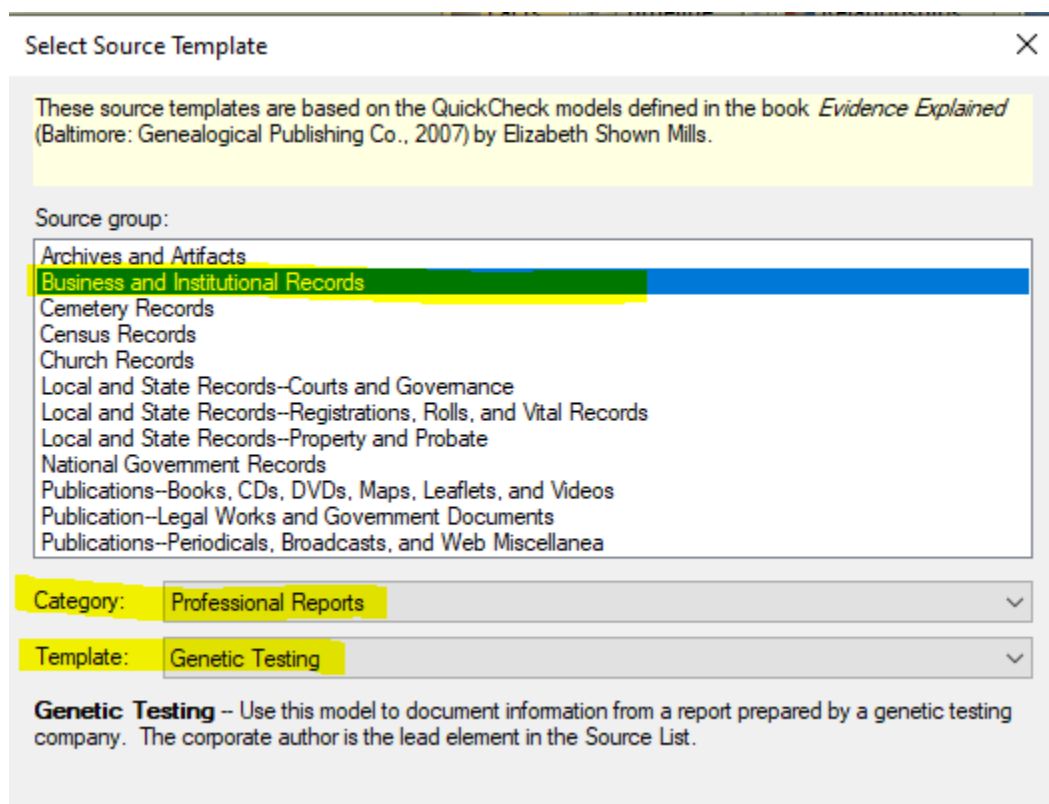
A screenshot of a software interface showing a tabbed menu with 'Source', 'Reference Note', 'Media', and 'Notes'. Below the tabs is a 'Source title:' label followed by a text input field. To the right of the input field is a 'New...' button, which is highlighted in yellow, and an 'Edit...' button.

- c. For Source Template, click More



A screenshot of a dialog box titled 'Add Source'. It has a tabbed menu with 'Source' and 'Media'. Below the tabs is a 'Source template:' label followed by a text input field. To the right of the input field is a 'More...' button, which is highlighted in yellow. Below the input field is a tooltip that reads: 'Enter the type of source to select a template, or leave blank for default'.

- d. Select Source Template, select the field names shown below from the drop down lists available then click OK.



A screenshot of a dialog box titled 'Select Source Template'. It contains a text box with the following text: 'These source templates are based on the QuickCheck models defined in the book *Evidence Explained* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2007) by Elizabeth Shown Mills.' Below this is a 'Source group:' label followed by a list box containing the following items: 'Archives and Artifacts', 'Business and Institutional Records', 'Cemetery Records', 'Census Records', 'Church Records', 'Local and State Records--Courts and Governance', 'Local and State Records--Registrations, Rolls, and Vital Records', 'Local and State Records--Property and Probate', 'National Government Records', 'Publications--Books, CDs, DVDs, Maps, Leaflets, and Videos', 'Publication--Legal Works and Government Documents', and 'Publications--Periodicals, Broadcasts, and Web Miscellanea'. The 'Business and Institutional Records' item is highlighted in blue. Below the list box is a 'Category:' dropdown menu with 'Professional Reports' selected. Below that is a 'Template:' dropdown menu with 'Genetic Testing' selected. At the bottom, there is a description for 'Genetic Testing': 'Genetic Testing -- Use this model to document information from a report prepared by a genetic testing company. The corporate author is the lead element in the Source List.'

- e. Now you back to the previous screen and the Source Template : Genetic Testing has been filled in.

- f. Complete the rest of the blank fields as follows:

The screenshot shows the 'Add Source' dialog box with the following fields filled in:

- Source template: Genetic Testing
- Corporate author: My Heritage
- Corporate location: Israel
- Report title: DNA Match Result
- Recipient: Recipient of the report
- Recipient address: Street address of the recipient [for private use - will not be printed]
- Recipient location: City, state/province of the recipient
- Report date: Date of the report

Corporate author - the name of the testing company, eg Ancestry.com, My Heritage, FamilyTreeDNA, 23 and Me, etc

Corporate location - where is the head office of the testing company if you know where that is

Report title - I use the same report title for all my DNA match sources - DNA

Match Report - as this provides consistency across all results.

Do not complete the rest of the fields. What you are doing here is creating a generic source citation (in this case for all My Heritage DNA matches). The detail of the individual reports for matches goes into the next step.

- g. Click OK
6. You are now back at the source citation screen and the Source title field has been completed. In this case it is an ancestry.com result that we are looking at, but it could

have been any of the companies.

Source Reference Note Media Notes [This citation is linked to 1 fact](#)

Source title: Ancestry.com, "DNA Match Report" New... Edit...

Repository: No repository is specified for this source

Citation detail: Jonathan Gilbert [redacted] - 25 Oct 2019

Citation text: 141cM over 7 segments

Web address: <https://www.ancestry.com.au/discoveryui-matches/compare/A1DA8764-6BE7-4FF9-...>

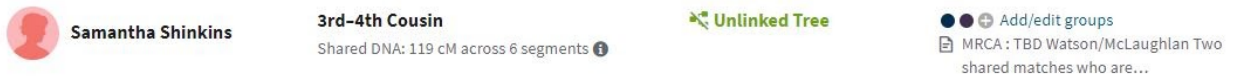
Include in reference note

Citation text Web address

Copy OK Cancel Help

- a. The citation detail **MUST** contain the name that is used in the original source. For example it could be an alias, or initials, or something completely made up. This is the user name by which your match is known at that particular testing facility and it is very important that this is recorded. When you search for the match you will need to use this name and not the name of the individual themselves.
 - b. If the kit is managed by someone else add this information to the citation detail. And the date that you found and recorded the match.
 - c. Citation text is where I store the actual physical statistics of the match. As each company gets different results it is important that this is recorded.
 - d. Web address - the URL of the page where the match is located. It could be that you try to come back to it later only to find it gone. But it is important to know where it was at the time you recorded the match.
 - e. Tick both Citation Text and Web Address at the bottom of the dialogue box to ensure that this information is included in the citation when it is printed.
7. Click OK to exit the Source citation temporarily.

8. What evidence can you provide to support the source citation? There's no document, no permanent record as such. Everything is web based which can disappear at any time. So you need to capture the information that is important to you. I use the Windows Snipping Tool to capture information directly from the screen such as



save it as an image file, and attach it as media to the source citation. You might choose to capture the shared matches. Or the chromosome browser in FTDNA or My Heritage. This is really a matter of personal choice.

9. To attach media to a source citation double click on the relevant source citation from the list attached to the DNA Markers fact and then click on the media tab at the top of the screen and select Attach New Media and then browse to and select the new image that I have created. You can attach as many images as you want.

Don't forget that you have a notes field in the source citation where you can record information that you need to remember about a particular source. And you can add as many sources as you have to a single DNA Markers fact - so if your match has popped up on Ancestry and FTDNA and MyHeritage you will have three sources all providing proof for the match.

