

RootsMagic, Ancestry TreeShare and the FamilySearch Family Tree

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You will need to purchase RootsMagic or upgrade to the latest version from RootsMagic.com. You will also then either need to add your data manually or by uploading a GEDCOM File. I strongly recommend that you spend some time learning the RootsMagic program. It might also be a good idea to understand Ancestry.com family trees. Once you have a basic understanding of RootsMagic it is time to explore the Web Hints.

Web Hints

On RootsMagic, the WebHints are indicated by little illuminated light bulbs. By clicking on the light bulb, you can see whether or not you have a record available on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, Findmypast.com, or on MyHeritage.com. You need to have an account and sign in to Ancestry and FamilySearch individually to view their web hints. You will need to add the WebHints information to your file

Adding a WebHint from Ancestry

- Adds the new information
- Adds the source
- Adds an image from the source if there is one

Accepting a Web Hint from Ancestry accepts the hint on Ancestry but does not add the information to RootsMagic

Starting TreeShare for Ancestry

You will need to sign in to Ancestry. In order to begin TreeShare, you will either need to create a new RootsMagic file from your Ancestry.com family tree or create a new Ancestry.com family tree from your existing RootsMagic file. If you have an existing RootsMagic file and an Ancestry family tree then you will need to choose one of the two options. If you have more than one Ancestry.com family tree then you will have to decide which Ancestry family tree to Download.

According to the RootsMagic Magic Guide, FAQ: WebHints and TreeShare for Ancestry, the following RootsMagic specific items are not supported:

- Address List
- Color coding
- Correspondence List
- Description field for facts (when used) limited to 205 characters
- DNA Markers
- Formatting for dates (returned to RootsMagic with the correct formatting)
- Geocoding
- LifeStory elements such as the narrative, maps, and historical events
- Parent/Child relationships set to "Sealed" in RootsMagic (Ancestry sets it as a "birth" relationship.)

- Place notes
- Proof setting for facts
- Research Logs
- To-Do List
- “Member Tree” owner’s name (Not shown in the WebHints source information window.)
- User Defined sentence templates
- WebTags for individuals

In addition, the following media items are not supported:

- Media items that are larger than 20 MB
- HTML files as media
- Media linked to the Master source, a family, places, place details, or names (Media linked to a person, an event, or citation is uploaded.)

Also, the following Ancestry family tree items are not supported when downloaded or updated by TreeShare:

- Ancestry does not send “Primary” settings for events
- “Comments” fields made in “Notes” (The note is downloaded)
- URLs in the citation of an “Ancestry source” (URLs for citations under “Other sources” are downloaded as WebTags.)
- Shared trees with “guest” or “contributor” access (Trees with “owner” or “editor” access can be downloaded.)
- Anything attached to the Primary Name on Ancestry – No place to display it in RootsMagic

The following items are also not uploaded to Ancestry from RootsMagic:

- Prefix – No corresponding field on the Ancestry Member Tree
- Nickname – No corresponding field on the Ancestry Member Tree
- LDS Ordinances – Confidential information
- Family and Shared facts beyond the primary person it was attached to – Ancestry only has individual facts, no family facts. (The RootsMagic Marriage fact is added to both the husband and the wife.)

For those with an LDS Account, we now have a path to add sources from Ancestry, FamilySearch, Findmypast, and MyHeritage to our RootsMagic file and we can also add sources from our RootsMagic file to the FamilySearch.org Family Tree. You can start by adding record hints to Ancestry. With other programs, you may need to use RecordSeek.com. RootsMagic opens a new world of possibilities. For more specific information, see the YouTube.com channels for RootsMagic and the Brigham Young University Family History Library. I also suggest that you use The Family History Guide (thefhguide.com) for more information about Ancestry.com.