

Veronica's Top 10 Tips

- for being a 'switched on' DNA researcher!

Tools

S	Size matters! Think about possible relationships based on the total cM's shared. cM's, SNP's, longest segments - bigger is better!!	Cousinship chart, and Blaine Bettinger's shared cMs project.
W	Which side is the match coming from? Maternal, paternal, or could it be either?	Inheritance charts: autosomal DNA, x-DNA, mitochondrial DNA, y-DNA. Compare other tests
I	ICW - Who is it 'in common with'? Focus on overlapping and matching segments on the SAME chromosome. What does it tell you? Is it IBD, IBS/IBC, IBP?	FTDNA Chromosome Browser; 23andMe FIA; GEDmatch MSS, People who match 2 kits, DNAGedcom
T	Triangulated groups? Do I have any? Same segment/ same chromosome AND all must match each other.	GEDmatch - Tier 1 Tools, or use the one on one feature (multiple queries).DNAGedcom ADSA
C	Compare gedcoms. Look for published trees. Search for names and locations.	GEDmatch User Look up, DNAGedcom GWorks, Google names, locations and email addresses.
H	Help them, help you! Summarise what you have found already when you communicate with your matches.	Develop template paragraphs for different ancestor lines.
E	Email your matches. Don't work in a vacuum, its amazing what you can find if you ask questions!	Develop a standard template email with variable paragraphs.
D	Do your own research on their genealogy!	Add your research to a free 'one world tree' site, Family search, Wikitree
O	Open your tree and share widely - it's a key to success!	Add your grandparents lines to <u>at least one</u> free 'one world tree' site.
N	Notes are vital, make sure you have a reference system that works for you!	Evernote, Word, Cards etc

Extracted from Roberta Estes' Blog -

<https://dna-explained.com/category/ibc-identical-by-chance>

Term	Short For	Description	Characteristics
IBD	Identical by Descent	On a particular segment, you match someone because you both share a common segment from the same ancestor.	Generally segments are identified as IBD when a common ancestor is found through multiple matches on that segment to people with the same ancestor, known as triangulation. Can be large or small segments.
IBC	Identical by Chance	On a particular segment, you match someone because their DNA matches your DNA by virtue of jumping back and forth between you mother's and father's strands of DNA. Also known as false positives.	Typically smaller segments. People who match you IBC will not match others in an ancestral or triangulated match group and will not match you and one of your parents, if you have both parents to phase against.
IBP	Identical by Population	A given segment is found in high frequencies in a given population, such that you could inherit that segment from multiple ancestors, making the identification of the contributing ancestor difficult or impossible.	Typically smaller segments from known endogamous populations. Can be useful in families that are not entirely endogamous.
IBS	Identical by State	A now obsolete term that used to be used in the context of the opposite of identical by descent.	Was often used in the context of "I can't identify the ancestor, so they must be IBS." IBS when used in this way includes both IBP, a subset of IBD, and IBC which are opposites of each other.