Basic Resources for Jewish Genealogy

General Reference Works

*Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy.* Published quarterly, since 1985.
[www.avotaynu.com/journal.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/journal.htm)


[www.jgsny.org/newbook.htm](http://www.jgsny.org/newbook.htm)

[www.avotaynu.com/books/guide.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/books/guide.htm)

Spector, Shmuel and Geoffrey Wigoder, editors. *Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust.* Yad Vashem and New York University Press, 2001. 3 volumes. Covers the Jewish presence in more than 1,000 towns in Central and Eastern Europe.

Zubatsky, David S. and Irwin M. Berent. *Sourcebook for Jewish Genealogies and Family Histories.* Avotaynu, 1996. 480 pp. Jewish genealogies and family histories, both published and unpublished, for more than 10,000 family names.
[www.avotaynu.com/books/sourcebook.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/books/sourcebook.htm)

Jewish Names

[www.avotaynu.com/books/dagn.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/books/dagn.htm)

Beider, Alexander. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from Galicia.* Avotaynu, 2004. 624 pp. 25,000 different surnames used by Jews in Galicia, showing etymology, districts within Galicia where they appeared, and variations of the names.
[www.avotaynu.com/books/djsg.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/books/djsg.htm)

Beider, Alexander. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Kingdom of Poland.* Avotaynu, 1996. 608 pp. More than 32,000 Jewish surnames with origins in that part of the Russian Empire known as the Kingdom of Poland, showing etymology, districts where they appeared, and variations of the names.
[www.avotaynu.com/djskptoc.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/djskptoc.htm)

Beider, Alexander. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire.* Avotaynu, 1993. 784 pp. More than 50,000 Jewish surnames from the the Russian Empire, showing etymology, districts where they appeared, and variations of the names.
[www.avotaynu.com/djsretoc.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/djsretoc.htm)


**Eastern Europe**


**Sefhardic**


**On-line Resources**

**General**

[www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com) Comprehensive links to thousands of genealogy websites

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) Church of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) resources, Family History Library catalog

**U.S. Research**

[www.stevemorse.org](http://www.stevemorse.org) Search tools for numerous important genealogical websites

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) The most extensive online source of U.S. genealogical data; *fee-based*

[www.vitalrec.com](http://www.vitalrec.com) Detailed state-by-state, county-by-county vital records information

[http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/vitalrecords.html](http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/vitalrecords.html) Birth & marriage records indexes

[www.deathindexes.com](http://www.deathindexes.com) Death records and indexes

[www.researchguides.net/cemeteries.htm](http://www.researchguides.net/cemeteries.htm) Cemeteries and obituaries

[http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/military.html](http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/military.html) Military records and databases

[http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com](http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com) Public records online
www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy  National Archives genealogy page
http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/ei.html  Ships, passenger lists, & naturalization records
www.ellisisland.org  Ellis Island passenger ship lists, 1892-1924 (*Use www.stevemorse.org to search!*)
www.researchguides.net/newspapers.htm  Historical newspapers and indexes

New York City
www.nyc.gov/html/records/home.html  NYC Dept. of Records and Information Services
www.nypl.org/research/chss/lhg/genea.html  NY Public Library local history & genealogy division

Jewish Genealogy
www.avotaynu.com/csi/csi-home.htm  Index of surnames found in Jewish genealogy databases
www.jewishgen.org  Online meeting place for Jewish genealogists; numerous international databases
www.jewishgen.org/cemetery  Worldwide directory of Jewish cemeteries
www.catalog.cjh.org  Catalog of books and archival materials at the Center for Jewish History
www.cjh.org/collections/genealogy/factsheets.php  Genealogy research guides (both U.S. and foreign)
www.cjh.org/collections/genealogy/onlinedbs.php  Indexes to several AJHS collections
www.americanjewisharchives.org  American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati
www.jgsny.org  Jewish Genealogical Society of NY; several NYC-area databases
www.iajgs.org  International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
www.rtrfoundation.org  Routes to Roots database of Jewish records in Eastern European archives
http://www.sephardiegen.com/  Sephardic genealogy resources

Holocaust Databases
www.ushmm.org/namesearch  U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum name search
www.yadvashem.org/wps/portal/IY_HON_Welcome  Database of Holocaust victims
http://holocaustresources.cjh.org  Archival materials at the Center for Jewish History