

Social Media Audit for Family Historians

Take a thoughtful look at how you share family history online. This audit can help you check whether your profiles, posts, and privacy choices still fit what you want.

You don't need to change everything. Choose one or two updates that would make your social media experience more comfortable or useful.

1. What do you want social media to do for you?

Check any that fit:

- Help me share family stories and memories
- Connect me with relatives
- Find others interested in my family or local history
- Share photographs, documents, or discoveries
- Ask questions and gather memories
- Take part in genealogy communities
- Keep family members updated on a project
- Other: _____

What matters most to you right now?

2. Review your profiles

Look at the social media accounts you use for family-history sharing.

Profile or account	Name and photo feel current?	Bio or description says what I share?	Contact and audience settings feel right?
_____	Yes / Update	Yes / Update	Yes / Review
_____	Yes / Update	Yes / Update	Yes / Review
_____	Yes / Update	Yes / Update	Yes / Review

Check each item that applies:

- My profile name and image are how I want them to appear.
- My description gives people a helpful sense of my interests.
- I know which parts of my profile are public.
- My links and contact details are current and intentional.
- I know how to adjust who can see my posts.

One profile update I may make:

3. Check your audience and privacy choices

Review the audience and privacy settings on the platforms you use. Settings and options may change, so check the current controls.

- I know who can see my posts.
- I know who can comment, tag me, or contact me.
- I'm comfortable with people sharing or reposting my content.
- I know how to limit the audience for a particular post.
- I have reviewed what information appears in my profile.
- I've considered whether my posts reveal details about living relatives.
- I know how to remove a post or adjust its audience later.

What would you like to keep private or share only with a smaller group?

4. Review recent posts

Think about a few recent posts you shared about family history.

- Do the posts reflect the kinds of stories you want to share?
- Are captions clear enough for someone outside your family to understand?
- Did you include dates, places, or context when it would help?
- Did you credit the source of a photo, document, or other material when appropriate?
- Did you consider the privacy and preferences of living people mentioned or pictured?
- Are you comfortable with the audience who can see those posts?

A post I'm glad I shared:

A post I might handle differently next time:

5. Consider connection and conversation

- I'm comfortable with the comments and messages I receive.
- I know how I want to respond when someone adds a memory or correction.
- I can set boundaries around requests for personal or family information.
- I know how to leave or mute a group that no longer feels right.
- I participate in genealogy spaces that have clear, respectful community guidelines.

What would make online conversations feel more positive or manageable?

6. Check whether your routine works for you

- How often have I been posting or participating?
- Does that feel enjoyable and manageable?
- Am I spending the amount of time I intended?
- Do I have a simple way to save ideas or draft posts?
- Would I prefer to post less often, change platforms, or take a break?

One change that would make my routine easier:

7. Choose your next steps

Based on this audit, choose one or two actions:

- Review privacy or audience settings.
- Update a profile or description.
- Add context or attribution to a post.
- Ask a relative before sharing a photo or personal story.
- Adjust who can comment, tag, or contact me.
- Mute, leave, or take a break from a group or platform.
- Set a more comfortable posting rhythm.
- Other: _____

My first next step: _____

When I'll do it: _____

Your social media presence should feel like yours. Revisit this audit whenever your goals, audience, or comfort level changes.