

# DATA VALIDATION Crib Sheet

## Intro

Data quality is something that we should embed in our family trees as we create them but we're only human and mistakes happen, so we have some tools to help you track down issues.

## Assistance

If you need help with any aspect of this process, please post a question on the forum under the [YourTrees subforum](#)

## Automated data validation

As a matter of course, all GEDCOM files submitted to us will put through TreeFix - a data scrubbing program that will carry out the following corrections

1. Convert all Chapman Codes to their full county names and country
2. Abbreviate full month names to their three-character GEDCOM-compliant versions
3. Remove all ordinals from dates - st, nd, rd, th
4. Change invalid date modifiers such as Ca, Say, Maybe, and the full names of Before, After, Between, etc to BEF, AFT, BETetc
5. Correct an incorrect data tag generated by Family Tree Maker so that nicknames appear properly

If you have these in your local tree, then they won't appear in the YourTrees online version

However, they are still in your local tree and you might prefer to correct them. So, as we import your tree we will generate and send to you an Excel sheet that contains all the changes we made so you can check them and update your local tree.

We will also send you a missing citations report that lists all BMD entries where no source is cited

## Manual data validation

We've created a number of data validation reports you can use to analyse your tree in YourTrees for any issues so that you can correct them in your local tree. Create a new GEDCOM periodically as you correct them and you'll see them disappear from the data validation reports. Note though that many of these reports overlap with the TreeFix report.

- Log on to YourTrees and then login to YourTrees
- From the top menu select **Tools > Validation Tools**

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- Click one of the reports to run it
  - There will be a short delay while the report is generated
- Use the drop down selector to select your tree from the list

Tree:

- This will filter the results to just your tree and you can click on the button to download the report to a CSV file that you can open in a spreadsheet. If you don't have Excel or Google Sheets, you can install [Libreoffice](#) for free on Windows and Mac.

Matches 1 to 46 of 46 [» Comma-delimited CSV file](#)

- Correct the entries in your local tree
- Send us a new GEDCOM file so we can update YourTrees
- When we notify you we have processed the updated tree, repeat this process from the top and check the entries are now correct

## Boomerang trees

In light of the Excel reports we have introduced, we have discontinued the Boomerang Tree service

