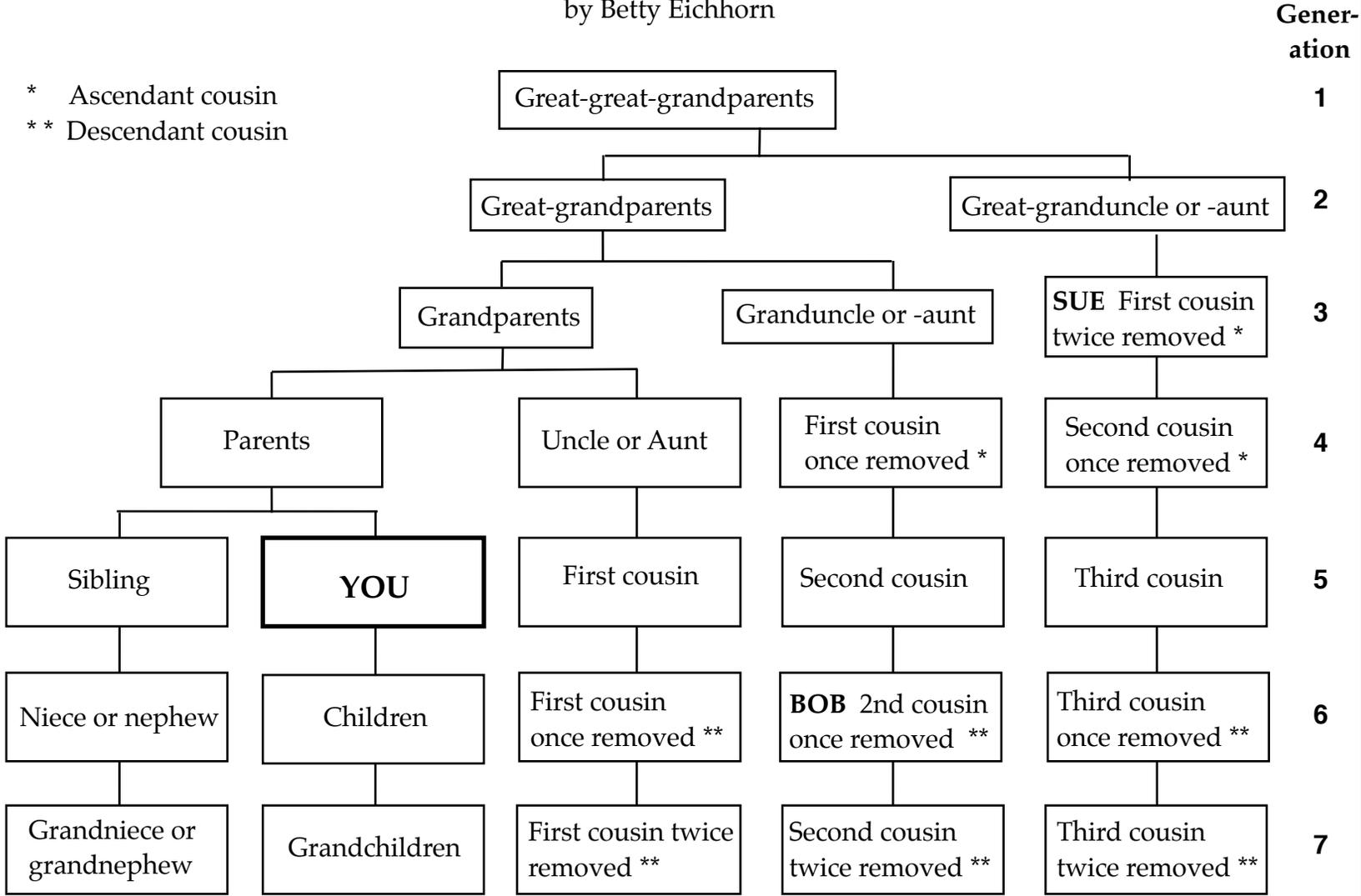


RELATIONSHIP CHART

by Betty Eichhorn

* Ascendant cousin
 ** Descendant cousin



This chart shows the blood relationship of “YOU” to everyone else on the chart.

1. In-laws are relatives YOU gain when YOU or your siblings marry. A half-brother or a half-sister is someone who shares just one parent with YOU. These relationships are not illustrated in this chart.
2. The siblings of YOUR grandparents are your granduncle or grandaunt, not great uncle nor great aunt. Similarly, the siblings of YOUR great-grandparents are YOUR great-granduncle or great-grandaunt. Also the same nomenclature is used for grandnephew and grandniece.
3. Cousins are persons who are related through a sibling of one of YOUR ancestors. YOU and a cousin will share one or more ancestors. There is no such thing as a half-cousin.
4. To determine a cousin relationship, first locate the nearest common ancestor(s). Count the number of generations (steps) up for each person to the common ancestor.
5. If the number of steps between each person and the common ancestor is the same, count the number of ‘g’s in the common ancestor’s title. For instance, first cousins share the same grandfather or grandmother or both. There is one ‘g’ in grandfather and grandmother, so that makes them first cousins to each other.
6. Second cousins share the same great-grandparent(s), so two ‘g’s yields second cousins. It is similarly done for more distant common ancestors.
7. If the number of steps between each person and the common ancestor is different, they are removed cousins, meaning they are one or more generations above or below

YOU. Those above YOU on the chart are “ascendant” cousins, those below YOU are “descendant” cousins.

8. BOB is four steps from YOUR common ancestor whereas YOU are only three steps away. YOU are closer to the common ancestors who are YOUR g-g-grand-parents. They are BOB’s g-g-grandparents. Count the ‘g’s in the closest relationship which in this case is 2. So he is a second cousin but one generation removed from (below) YOU. That makes him YOUR descendant 2C1R.
9. SUE is two steps from your common ancestor whereas YOU are four steps away. SUE is the closest to the common ancestors who are her grandparents. One ‘g’ makes her a first cousin two generations removed from YOU. She is YOUR grandmother’s first cousin. Since YOU are two generations below SUE, YOU and SUE are 1C2R.
10. Watch out for titled relatives who may not be whom they seem to be. An “aunt” may actually be a grandaunt or a cousin and “Grandmaw” may actually be a great-grandmother. Misunderstanding of the ancestor hierarchy is often a problem.
11. Some people may have a relative title but they may not be related. Some are religious titles (Father, Sister, etc.) Others may be given the title by everyone, not just relatives.
12. YOU may be related in more than one way with another person because of a marriage between relatives in an earlier generation. That creates more than one pathway to the common ancestor.