Full Text Search Links

The videos below were presented at Rootstech 2024 and Rootstech 2025 in March 2024 and March 2025 respectively. While the 2024 videos are somewhat dated, they are nonetheless informative. The 2025 videos contain more up-to-date information. These videos range in level of sophistication from beginner to intermediate. Collectively, they will give you all of the information you need to harness the power of Full Text Search to find your ancestors' records.

- FamilySearch, "Introduction to FamilySearch Labs." Full Text Search is currently one of the artificial intelligence applications which FamilySearch is creating for family history which is currently in a protype version. FamilySearch calls these prototypes FamilySearch Labs. This video is the Readers Digest explanation of FamilySearch Labs given in February 2024 at Rootstech 2024. https://youtu.be/-C6M5-2DlKA?si=8Mk-XAkvCPp86UWr&t=1 (3:47 minutes)

- FamilySearch, "Full Text Search." This video is the Readers Digest version of the prototype version of Full Text Search, on which FamilySearch is currently working which was presented in February 2024 at Rootstech 2024. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P00oMDsAsSw (4:33 minutes)

- Raymond, "Full Text Search. This excellent beginning level video describes in more detail the Full Text Search prototype and tips and tricks on how to use Full Text Search." https://youtu.be/CRYSwe7L6ys?si=4EMvODhPB70m4xiS&t=1 (21:24 minutes)

- Raymond, "FamilySearch Full Text Research is Even Better." This intermediate level video discusses the Fill Text Search prototype use with Obituaries, Old Newspapers, Record Collections, Revolutionary War Pension Files, Obtaining English translations of non-English documents, and Future goals for Full Text Research. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QH6QuUkyYsk (15:52 minutes)

- FamilySearch, "2025 FamilySearch Global and Tech Forum." While you are encouraged to listen to all of the presentations on the Forum (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aV9ZTrJNfNs&t=2s), two presentations are of particular relevance to Full Text Search:

    - Barber, "Updates on Full Text Search. Ms. Barber discusses all of the changes and updates made since RootsTech 2024, including now making 1.2 billion images available to Full Text Search. To fully understand what is discussed, you may want to review the videos discussed above. https://youtu.be/aV9ZTrJNfNs?si=335k2k-6OGKBNIE3&t=1232 (6:40 minutes)

- Miller, “AI Help Chatbot.” This is a tool that you can use to do a search for you by asking questions of the FamilySearch Chatbot and then the Chatbot will try to find the answers to your questions. Mr. Miller briefly describes how the Chatbot works in this video. https://youtu.be/aV9ZTrJNfNs?si=eWUZkr5cMHkIaiJJ&t=1634 (3:51 minutes)

- Tanner, “Can you Use AI to Do Family History Research?” This video is the latest on the use of AI to assist us with our genealogical research. This video contains the latest on this topic as of March 30, 2025, IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADVANCES IN AI WHICH ARE OCCURING DAILY, WITH THE CAUTION THAT INFORMATION PRESENTED DURING THE ALLRED’S PRESENTATION TO SNOISLE GENEALOCIAL SOCIETY IS DATED BECAUSE OF THE RAPIDLY CHANGING USE OF AI IN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH. The video is found at https://youtu.be/gIRLVvOmRBE?si=tf1dyb9FpFw1xhDC (51:27).

- Tennant, “Full-Text Search: Find Records Faster with Help of AI.” This is an article released on 19 March 2025 which shows detailed steps for using Full Text Search. It might be useful to print this article to have for ready reference. https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/full-text-search#:~:text=Full%2DText%20Search%20uses%20the,can%20obtain%20results%20in%20seconds.

- Raymond, “The New FamilySearch Catalog.” This video describes the steps that FamilySearch has taken to go from 3”x5” card catalogues to its fully-electronic searchable database and things that were done to standardize place names and other information in multiple languages. This video primarily relates to the physical assets that are catalogued in the FamilySearch catalog in which one can use key words, standardized place names, etc. At the end of the video, Mr. Raymand talks about integrating into the New FamilySearch catalog the production of the 300+ digital camera images. THAT INTIGRATION HAS NOT OCCURRED AS OF NOW AND THEREFORE THE NEW FAMILYSEARCH CATALOG DOES NOT CONTAIN THE IMAGES PRODUCED BY THE CAMERAS, but may occur later. https://youtu.be/0pamu0RuSBY?si=KS-GedC_pKuxCrSO&t=1 (27:54 minutes)

  Tanner, “Opening the Door to Latin American Genealogical Research with Full-text Searches.” This video discusses using Full Text Search to find Spanish and Portugues genealogical records. It also demonstrates how English speakers can obtain English language transcriptions of these records. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15kv0Njx4Jk (59:31 minutes)