

# Chapter 3 - Importing Data

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## General Overview

Most genealogy applications provide two methods to input data – manual data input and GEDCOM (Genealogical Data COMMunications) import. In addition to these two methods, TMG supports the import of data *directly* from several popular genealogy programs without the limitations inherent in GEDCOM. This chapter covers importing data, starting with an outline of the import process, continuing with a brief discussion of considerations for an effective import strategy and post import cleanup, and closes with a detailed discussion of advanced import options.

Those who have transferred data between genealogy programs using GEDCOM know that it is a weak standard that is implemented differently by almost every program. Hence, incorrect placement or interpretation of data, and even loss of data is not uncommon. The "art" of GEDCOM transfers typically involves customizing the GEDCOM file with a text editor to achieve desired results. While TMG does support GEDCOM transfers, it also employs an exclusive technology called GenBridge™ with which you can import data directly from several popular genealogy programs. You should achieve superior results with

less effort and without having to manually edit a GEDCOM file by utilizing GenBridge™.

GenBridge™ employs an Import Wizard approach to guide you through the import process. The process is similar for each of the supported applications including GEDCOM. In general, the steps are:

1. Welcome - select from a Simple Wizard where GenBridge™ will make import decisions for you, or from an Advanced Wizard to exercise more control over the process.
2. Import From - select from any of the supported file types (*see Table 3- 1*).
3. Import To - you can import the file into a new project, or append it to an existing project as a separate data set.
4. Options screens - each of the supported file types noted above may cause one or more Options screens to appear during the import process. Some of the Options screens are identical across some file types; others are unique to a file type due to the unique data type capabilities it contains.
5. Finish - to start the import.

Software Application	File Type	Backup File
The Master Genealogist™ v4.x or earlier	*.TMG	*.SQZ
Family Origins®	*.FOW	*.ZIP
Family Tree Maker®	*.FTW	*.FBK
GEDCOM	*.GED	
Generations™	*.UDS	
Legacy Family Tree™	*.FDB	*.ZIP
Personal Ancestral File® v3-5.x	*.PAF	*.ZIP
The Roots Family of Products		
Family Gathering®	*.PRO	*.SQZ
Roots IV™	*.PRO	*.SQZ
Roots V™	*.PRO	*.SQZ
Ultimate Family Tree®	*.PRO	*.SQZ
Visual Roots™	*.PRO	*.SQZ

Table 3-1: Import File Types Supported by GenBridge