

Pathfinder to  
Marriage Registrations

Last Updated: August 2024

This Pathfinder will guide you through the **Indexes** to the **Registration Number** and then to the **Registration**. To find the matching microfilm reel numbers for the Indexes and the Registrations, consult the appendix listings in the *Marriages Binder* for *Inventory 80 (Records of the Office of the Registrar General)* or follow the links below. The microfilm is available in the Archives Reading Room and through interlibrary loan.

Please note: Marriages are no longer microfilmed as of 1932 and can only be accessed through [ancestry.ca](#), which holds digital birth records from 1872-1940; [click here to access the ancestry.ca website](#). Ancestry can be accessed without a membership at the Archives of Ontario and many public libraries at [ancestryinstitution.ca](#). The registrations for 1869-1927 are also available for free (with registration) on the Family Search website; [click here to access the Family Search website](#).

Person’s Name:


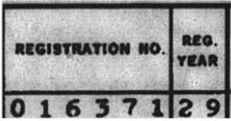
Marriage Date:

Step 1: When did the marriage occur?

Between 1801 (approximately) and December 1873	Between January 1874 and December 1932	After 1932
<p><a href="#">Click here to consult the Pathfinder to Pre-1874 Marriage Registrations</a> (*1873 marriages can be located either through this path or the next path described).</p> <p><b>For other possible sources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">click here to consult Research Guide 204 (Sources for Births, Marriages and Deaths records)</a>.</li><li>Consult the “Related Records” and “Associated Materials” sections in the <i>Deaths Binder</i>.</li></ul>	<p>See the Marriage Indexes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Indexes to Marriages</a> or view A6 in the <i>Marriages Binder</i></li><li>Match the year and first initial of the surname to the corresponding <b>MS 934</b> microfilm reel (index)</li><li>The reels are in the <b>Self Service Microfilm Area</b>.</li><li>If you find the name of the person, go to Step 2 below.</li></ul>	<p><b>1933-<del>1940</del>1942:</b> These records are available on the <a href="#">ancestry.ca</a> website. <a href="#">Click here to access ancestry.ca</a></p> <p><b><del>1941</del>-1943:</b> These records are closed for digitization and will be available on <a href="#">ancestry.ca</a> when complete. Contact us if you require a copy for legal or humanitarian purposes.</p> <p><b>1944-Present:</b> These records are located at the <b>Office of the Registrar General:</b> 189 Red River Road P.O. Box 4600 Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8 Phone: 416-325-8305 Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-461-2156 <a href="#">Click here to access the Service Ontario website</a></p>

Step 2: Did you find the Person’s Name on the Indexes to Marriages?

Yes	No
<p>Write down:</p> <p>Six-Digit Registration Number (ignore any hyphens):</p>	<p>Consult Original Indexes, 1869-1911:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>For July-Dec. 1869, retrieve <b>MS 938</b>, reel 1</li></ul>

Yes	No
<p><b>Two-Digit Registration year (not the marriage year):</b></p> <p>Examples of the registration number and year entry from the Indexes to Marriages:</p> <p>Example from the 1874 Index</p>  <p>Example from the 1929 Index</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <b>1869-1911</b>, <a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Original Index Books to Marriage Registrations</a> or view A13 in the <i><b>Marriages Binder</b></i> to identify the microfilm reel you need to consult from <b>MS 941</b></li> </ul> <p>If you find the person's name:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write down the <b>registration year, county or district, volume number or letter, and folio (page) number.</b></li> <li><a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Marriages (listed geographically)</a> or view B2 in the <i><b>Marriage Binder</b></i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the <b>Registration Year, volume number or letter, and folio number.</b></li> </ul> <p>If the person's name is not on these reels, the marriage was probably <b>NOT</b> registered with the Government of Ontario.</p>

Step 3: What is the Registration Number?

Between 0-199999	Between 200000-399999	Between 500000-599999	Between 900000-999999
<p>Remove the “0” or “00” at the start of the Registration Number.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Marriages</a> or view A5 in the <i><b>Marriages Binder</b></i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the <b>Registration Year</b> and <b>Registration Number</b>.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p>Remove the “2” or “3” at the start of the Registration Number.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Registrations of Marriages</a> or view A5 in the <i><b>Marriages Binder</b></i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the <b>Registration Year</b> and <b>Registration Number</b>.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p><a href="#">Click here to view the microfilm list for the Delayed Registrations of Marriages</a> or view A22 in the <i><b>Marriages Binder</b></i> to identify the microfilm reel matching the <b>Marriage Year</b> and <b>Registration Number</b>.</p> <p>Look up the Registration number on the microfilm.</p>	<p>These records are at the <b>Office of the Registrar General</b> 189 Red River Road P.O. Box 4600 Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8 Phone: 416-325-8305 Toll-free in Ontario: 1-800-461-2156 <a href="#">Click here to access the Service Ontario website</a></p>