

QUICK START GUIDE

RESEARCHER'S FIELD MANUAL - www.pozzoardizzi.com

Your Mission: *Rescuing the Past*

Introduction

Welcome to the team. You hold the map to a fascinating adventure: discovering who you are through those who came before you. The history of our family is not just a list of names; it is a saga of decisions, travels, loves, and challenges that resulted in your existence. But time erases the footprints. Your mission is to recover them.

THE 5 COMMANDMENTS OF THE GOOD RESEARCHER

1. **You shall start with yourself:** Do not look for a 18th-century great-great-grandfather if you have not documented your own birth date and those of your parents. We work from the known to the unknown.
2. **You shall write SURNAMES in UPPERCASE:** To avoid confusion, always write: "Juan Pablo PÉREZ GÓMEZ". This way we will always know where the surname starts and ends.
3. **You shall respect women for their origins:** Always register women with their maiden name (at birth). This is the only way to track their biological lineage (e.g., María GÓMEZ, not María de PÉREZ).
4. **You shall standardize dates:** Forget 02/03/1900. Is it March or February? Always use the format: DAY (number) - MONTH (letters) - YEAR. Example: 12 AUG 1895.
5. **You shall cite your sources:** A fact without a source is just a rumor. Always write down where the information came from: "Did Aunt Ana say it?" or "Is it on the birth certificate?".