



Genealogical Dictionary

The Genealogical Dictionary gives you the English translation of Danish terms for most family relationships, as well as some of the words you will encounter most frequently in genealogical sources.

In Danish	In English
Aftægtsmand	Man, cared for by people who took over his farm or house.
Aftægtskone	Woman, cared for by people who took over her farm or house.
Almisselem	Pauper
Arbejder (fem. arbejderske)	Worker
Barn	Child
Bedstefader	Grandfather
Bedstemoder	Grandmother
Begravelse	Burial
Bettler	Beggar
Broder/bror (pl. brødre)	Brother
Brud	Bride
Brudgom	Bridegroom
Borgerlig	Civil (e.g. marriage)
Bonde	Peasant, farmer
Børn	Children
Copulerede	Married (also heading for weddings)
Dagleier/daglejer (fem: dagleierske)	Day-labourer
Datter (pl: døtre)	Daughter
Dreng (pl: drenge)	Boy
Dåb (Daab)	Baptism

Døde	Deceased, died
Enke	Widow
Enkemand	Widower
Fadder	Sponsor at baptism
Fader/Far (pl: fædre)	Father
Farbroder	Uncle (father's brother)
Farfader	Paternal grandfather
Farmoder	Paternal grandmother
Faster	Aunt (father's sister)
Fattiglem	Pauper
Forlover	Witness at marriage
Frue	"Mrs." (not used of peasant-women)
Fruentimmer	Woman (often = unmarried mother)
Frøken	"Miss" (not used of peasant-women)
Fæstegårdmand	Copyholder, farmer
Fæstehusmand	Copyholder, smallholder
Fætter	Male cousin
Fødested	Place of birth
Født	Born (birth)
Gårdmand	Farmer (also = copyholder)
Gudmoder	Godmother
Husmand	Smallholder
Hustru	Wife, married woman. Another word is "Kone".

Husfolk	Smallholders (about a couple)
Inderste	"Tenant"
Innsidder	"Tenant"
Jordløs husmand	Smallholder (without land of his own)
Jomfru	"Maiden" (lit: "virgin") (not used of peasant-women)
Karl	Farmhand
Kirke	Church
Kone	Wife, married woman. Another word is "Hustru".
Konfirmation	Confirmation
Kusine	Female cousin
Mand (pl: mænd)	Man, husband
Moder (pl: mødre)	Mother
Morbroder	Uncle (mother's brother)
Morfader	Maternal grandfather
Mormoder	Maternal grandmother
Moster	Aunt (mother's sister)
Nevø	Nephew
Niece	Niece
Oldefader	Great-grandfather
Oldemoder	Great-grandmother
Opholdssted	Place of residence
Pige	Girl, maid. Unmarried woman
Quinde	Woman (sometimes = wife)

Svigerinde/svogerske	Sister-in-law
Svoger	Brother-in-law (also = "male relative")
Svogerske/svigerinde	Sister-in-law
Søn	Son
Søster	Sister
Tjenende	Serves (followed by employers name)
Tjenestekarl	Farm hand
Tjenestepige	Maid
Ugift	Unmarried
Uægte	Illegitimate
Ægteskab	Marriage
Ægteviede	Married