

# ROSIE THE RIVETER DETECTIVE GUIDE

Is there a Rosie the Riveter in your family tree?

Make it your mission to write down her story!

Remember that a woman didn't have to work as an actual *riveter* to be called Rosie the Riveter. Rosies had many, many kinds of jobs.\* Even teenagers and children did volunteer jobs for the war effort.

- Start by looking for the names of women in your family who were living during World War II. Don't forget to check your mom's side **and** your dad's side of the family. Write the names of those you know about:

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- If anyone from the World War II era is still living, **TAKE A BREAK NOW** and go ask them about their wartime experiences ASAP! Take notes as they share their stories.
- If your relatives are deceased, talk to your oldest relatives—great-grandmas and grandpas, great-aunts and uncles, older cousins, family friends. Ask them what they remember about World War II service in your family. The work of Rosies is most often discovered through word-of-mouth. Personnel records from workplaces were likely not kept. Write any other names you discover:

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- In addition to Rosies, you may discover some men who served in the U. S. Armed Forces during the war. Gather their stories, too! Veterans can be found through the U. S. government at <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>. Write the names of any veteran ancestors that you find:

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- Look through photo albums, scrapbooks, drawers, file cabinets, boxes in the attic, etc. for photos, buttons, ID tags, letters, or other memorabilia that your Rosie may have left behind.
- When you discover a Rosie, a Volunteer Rosie, or a veteran, whether living or deceased, honor them in these special ways:
  1. Write down as much of her story as you can find and distribute it to your family.
  2. Create a simple account with the World War II Memorial Registry in Washington, D. C. at <https://www.iiregistry.abmc.gov/login/> so you can leave a tribute for both Rosies and veterans in the database there.
  3. Register Rosies with the American Rosie the Riveter Association's database at <https://www.rosietheriveter.net/membership/> (P. S. Descendants of Rosies and other Rosie enthusiasts can join ARRA too!)

\*One good place to find out about lots of Rosie jobs is in my alphabet book, *R is for Rosie the Riveter*, available on Amazon.

