



Background Check Checklist

DIY research using free public records — save \$100+ per search

Step 1: Verify Identity

- Confirm full legal name (including middle name)
 - Get date of birth if possible
 - Search [FastPeopleSearch.com](#) or [TruePeopleSearch.com](#)
 - Note all addresses from the past 7 years
 - Identify the county for each address
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Step 2: Criminal Records (Search Each County)

- Google "[County Name] court records search"
 - Search criminal case index by name + DOB
 - Note case numbers, charges, and dispositions
 - Repeat for EACH county where they've lived
 - Search [PACER](#) for federal cases ([pacer.uscourts.gov](#))
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Step 3: Sex Offender Registry

- Search [NSOPW.gov](#) (national database)
 - Also check state-specific registry for more details
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Step 4: Civil Records

- Search county civil court for lawsuits
 - Check for eviction cases (may be in civil or small claims)
 - Search [PACER](#) for federal civil + bankruptcy
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- Note if they were plaintiff or defendant
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Step 5: Employment/Education

- Verify employer exists (Google search)
 - Check LinkedIn for work history
 - Verify degree: contact school registrar
 - Check accreditation: ope.ed.gov
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Step 6: Professional Licenses

- Search state licensing board
 - Verify license is active
 - Check for disciplinary actions
 - Medical: [docinfo.org](https://www.docinfo.org)
 - Finance: brokercheck.finra.org
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Step 7: Social Media Review

- Search name on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, X
 - Check [Namechk.com](https://namechk.com) for username across platforms
 - Review recent posts for red flags
 - Google their email address and phone number
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⚠ Important: For employment or housing decisions, you may need to use an FCRA-compliant service and get written consent. This checklist is for personal/informal research only.

Want the complete guide?

Full Background Check DIY guide includes state-by-state resources, 5 detailed checklists, property/asset search, and legal considerations.

[Get the full guide → jimmytools.net](https://jimmytools.net)