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## The Stockholm population 1878-1926

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# The Stockholm population 1878–1926

This is a PC DVD, and runs on XP or higher.

## The *Rotemannen* database is now available on a DVD

During the latter half of the 1800s Stockholm had a very big increase in population, which made the usual system for the parishes to keep track of people break down.

Instead the city government started a system where there was appointed a certain civil servant, the *rotemannen*, who had his job to keep track of people in his area. The city was divided into 16 *rotar* (sing.: *rote*), based on the parishes. By the end of the system in 1926 the number of *rotar* had grown to 36.

The *rotemannen* had to keep track of when and where people moved in or out of the *rote*, and also keep books of births, marriages, and deaths. The foundation of the system was the various buildings and the people in them.

All this information was recorded in huge books that were preserved, and are now kept in the Stockholm City Archives (*Stockholms Stadsarkiv, SSA*).

The record-keeping system was however very difficult to understand, and there were thousands of books to search in, so the *Rotemannarkivet* was not user-friendly, and was indeed not open to the public.

But when computer became more available, many archives started huge indexing projects, and so did the SSA. A project to index the almost 7 million posts started in 1977, and the project will be completed in 2017.

The first CD based on the *Rotemannarkivet* was released in 1998, and contained information from the parishes of *Söder* (the island south of the Old Town). This CD was a huge success, and was then followed by a number of others: *Klara*, *Gamla Stan* and *Kungsholmen*. They contained the same type of information for their areas, but the search systems were different and sometimes hard to use.

So there was a demand for a new disc, a DVD, that had in one database all the information from the old CDs + the newly indexed *rotar* that had not made it to a CD.

In early February the long awaited DVD was released, and it has been another huge success, that makes it so much easier to do Stockholm research.

The search system is now on the same model as in the Swedish Death Index, and easy to navigate.

The DVD has almost 5 million posts. On the DVD there are also some maps of the city from various time periods, so you can find the street where your people lived. For some areas there are links to information from the death records, which can see of there is a cross in the search result. For other areas there is a direct link to the books that have the original information. This requires an internet connection.



### Warning

This DVD does *not* speak English, but is easy to navigate anyway. This is also a secondary source, so be careful, and check as much as possible in primary records.

It does not cover the whole city, parishes as Adolf Fredrik, Engelbrekt, Johannes, Gustav Vasa, Matteus, Bromma are still missing. Brännkyrka is partly missing.

### Using the DVD

When you begin the DVD you will see a start page with various choices. Select the one that says: SÖK, and you will come to the search window.

The example below shows a search for author August Strindberg, who was born in Stockholm, and sometimes lived abroad and sometimes came back to his city of

birth, with or without his family.

As always, fill out as few fields as possible, to eliminate spelling variations and other problems. It is usually enough to fill in *Efternamn* (surname), *Förnamn* (given name) and *Födelsedatum* (date of birth). The birthdate should be written as YYYYMMDD (18850614), but just the year can work as well. Then click on SÖK, and you get your search result. [RENSA means clear!]

In the result window 1 you will find all the various hits for August Strindberg, 15 of them, and you can also see the time periods each hit covers.

In result window 2 you will find the household during a specific period, with children and maids. Here you can click on any person, and his/her information at that time will appear in result window 3.

In this window you will also find the most detailed information about the person, date and place of birth, marital status, address with name of the block, and streets around it, when he moved in and from where. In Stockholm it shows which *rote*, and from other places the name of the parish or country, and where he moved next. There are also page numbers in the moving-in and -out-book, who owned the building, and the full source citation.

At the bottom of window 3 there are a couple of buttons. The first three ones show a map from 1885 and the next one from 1930. The middle button does not work yet. The button "sidan" shows the people on the same page, and the button "häftet" shows people in the same book. The last button "visa" is the internet connection where you can see the actual scanned pages.

While using this database and looking for other people, you may see "social" notes, about people being in hospital or jail, of children given new shoes by the *rote*, or poor relief, and much more. There is much more to say, but this is a fantastic tool for life in Stockholm during this period.

The DVD can be bought from <http://shop.genealogi.se/shop/>

The price is roughly \$100, and you can pay with a credit card.

The search results.



This map is from 1885, and is connected with August Strindberg. The black dots show where he lived in the area. He moved a lot, but mostly stayed in this area, to be close to his work at the Kungliga Biblioteket (Royal Library) in upper left corner.