

Section Ch. 6.5 Traits and Probability

I. Heredity patterns can be calculated with probability.

1. **Probability** is the likelihood that something will happen.
 2. Probability predicts an **average number of occurrences**, not an exact number of occurrences.
- Probability = $\frac{\text{number of ways a **specific event** can occur}}{\text{number of **total possible outcomes**}}$
 - Probability applies to **random events** such as **meiosis and fertilization**.

II. Punnett Squares

In 1905, Reginald Punnett, an English biologist, devised a shorthand way of finding the expected proportions of **possible genotypes** of crosses.

- Punnett squares are good for showing all the possible **combinations** of gametes and the likelihood that each will occur.
- It is important to remember that the results predicted by probability are **more** likely to be seen when there is a **large number** of offspring.

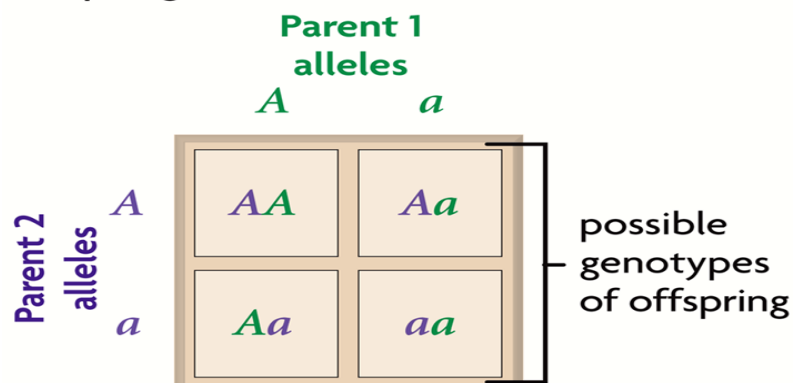


- The Punnett square is a grid system for *predicting* all possible genotypes resulting from a cross.
 1. The axes represent the possible *gametes of each parent*.
 2. The boxes show the possible *genotypes of the offspring*.
 3. The Punnett square yields the *ratio of possible* genotypes and phenotypes.

A. Monohybrid crosses

- The gametes that each parent forms are listed on the top and left side of the Punnett square.

The **Punnett square** is a grid system for predicting possible genotypes of offspring.



- **Rules for recording the results of crosses**

1. Use the **same letter** for the different alleles of the **same gene**.

Ex: Use **T** for the tall and short trait.

2. Use **uppercase** letters for dominant alleles.

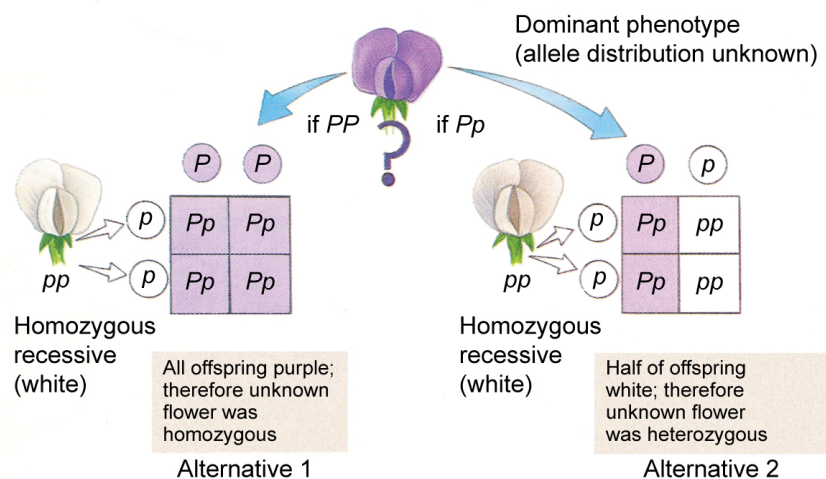
Ex: **TT** or **Tt** for a tall plant's alleles.

3. Use **lowercase** letters for recessive alleles.

Ex: **tt** for a short plant's alleles.

4. Always write the **dominant** allele first. (Easier to interpret in a Punnett square.)

B. A **testcross** is a cross between an organism with an **unknown genotype** and an organism with the **recessive phenotype**.



III. Mendel's Dihybrid Crosses

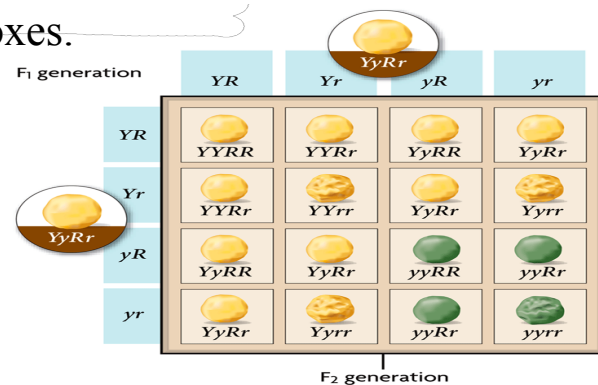
- Mendel performed another set of crosses in which he used peas that differed from each other in *two* traits.

A. The first generation

- Mendel took true-breeding pea plants that had *round yellow* seeds (RRYY) and crossed them with true breeding pea plants that had *wrinkled green* seeds (rryy).
- F₁ generation all had *round yellow* seeds.

B. The second generation

- Mendel let the F₁ plants *pollinate* themselves.
- In the F₂ generation he found that they appeared in a definite ratio of phenotypes - **9** round yellow; **3** round green; **3** wrinkled yellow; **1** wrinkled green.
- A Punnett square for a dihybrid cross will need to have **4** boxes on each side for a total of **16** boxes.

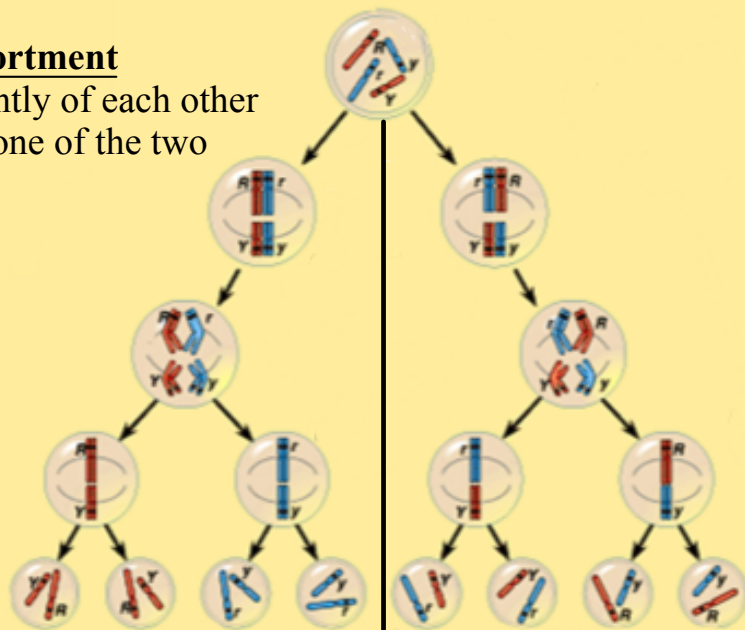


III. The law of independent assortment

- The law of independent assortment states that *genes* for different traits are inherited independently of each other.
- Ex: When a pea plant with the *genotype* **RrYy** produces *gametes*, the alleles **R** and **r** will separate from each other (law of segregation) as well as from the alleles **Y** and **y** (law of independent assortment).

Law of Independent Assortment

Alleles sort out independently of each other
This germ cell can divide one of the two following ways:



Section 6.6 Meiosis and Genetic Variation

Sexual reproduction *creates* unique combination of genes.

- *independent assortment* of chromosomes in meiosis
- *random fertilization* of gametes

Unique phenotypes may give a *reproductive advantage* to some organisms.

I. Crossing over is the exchange of *chromosome segments* between homologous chromosomes.

- occurs during *prophase I of meiosis I*
- results in *new combinations* of genes

Crossing over exchanges segments of DNA between homologous chromosomes.

1 Two homologous chromosomes pair up with each other during prophase I in meiosis.

2 In this position, some chromatids are very close to each other and segments cross.

3 Some of these segments break off and reattach to the other homologous chromosome.

Synthesize Draw the four chromosomes that would result after the above chromosomes go through meiosis.

II. Chromosomes contain many genes.

- Genes have specific placements or *locus* on a chromosome.
- The *farther apart* two genes are on a chromosome, the more likely they are to be *separated* by crossing over.
- Genes *located close* together on a chromosome tend to be *inherited together*, which is called genetic linkage.
- *Genetic linkage* allows the *distance* between two genes to be calculated.

