

Introduction to Punnett Squares (Science 10)

Punnett Square: tool used to predict the genotypes and phenotypes of offspring of a cross between two parents whose genotypes are known

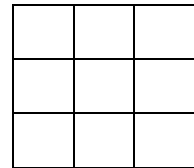
Monohybrid Cross: an intentional mating (cross) between two parents that only considers one trait

Genotypic Ratio: expected proportions of offspring genotypes, in lowest terms (e.g. 1 rr : 2Rr : 1RR); can also be expressed as a percentage (e.g. 25% rr, 50% Rr, 25% RR)

Phenotypic Ratio: expected proportions of offspring phenotypes, in lowest terms (e.g. 1 short : 3 long); can also be expressed as a percentage (e.g. 25% short, 75% long)

How to Draw a Punnett Square for a Monohybrid Cross

- 1) Determine the genotypes of the parents.
- 2) Write the genotypes of the parents in the Punnett square.
- 3) Determine the possible genotypes of the offspring. Write the genotypic ratio.
 - Note for heterozygote genotypes: write the dominant allele first. E.g. *Tt*, not *tT*.
- 4) Interpret the genotypes to determine the possible phenotypes of the offspring. Write the phenotypic ratio.



Example 1: In mice, fur colour is determined by a single gene, where brown (B) is dominant to white (b). A heterozygote is crossed with a homozygous recessive mouse.										
Step 1	Heterozygote = _____ Homozygous recessive = _____									
Steps 2 + 3	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table> Genotypic ratio: _____									
Step 4	Phenotypic ratio: _____									

Example 2: Nematodes can have a normal body shape or a dumpy (shorter) body shape. Dumpiness is a recessive trait. A dumpy nematode is crossed with a homozygous 'normal' nematode.										
Step 1	Dumpy nematode = _____ Homozygous normal = _____									
Steps 2 + 3	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table> Genotypic ratio: _____									
Step 4	Phenotypic ratio: _____									

Example 3: Pea plants can be round (*R*) or wrinkled (*r*). Two heterozygote pea plants are crossed. Determine the genotypic and phenotypic ratios of the offspring.