

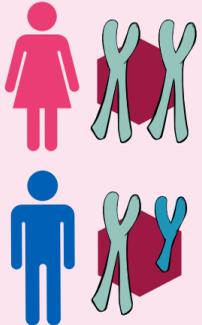
Happy Mother's Day from NHGRI:



10 NEAT FACTS About the X Chromosome

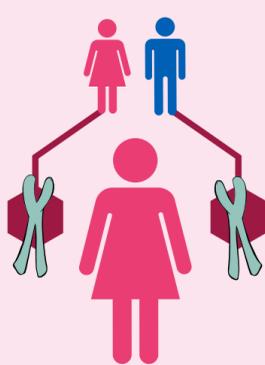
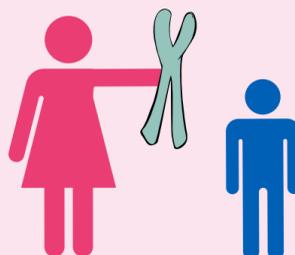


1 There are two sex-determining chromosomes in humans – the **X chromosome** and the **Y chromosome**. Their shape actually looks like the **X & Y** letters of the alphabet!



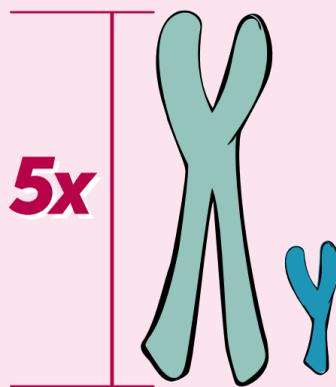
2 Males have one **X chromosome** and one **Y chromosome** (**It's a boy!**), and females have two **X chromosomes** (**It's a girl!**).

3 Men always inherit their **X chromosome** from their mothers.



4 Women always inherit one **X chromosome** from their mother and the other from their father.

5 The **X chromosome** is about **5** times larger in size than the Y chromosome.



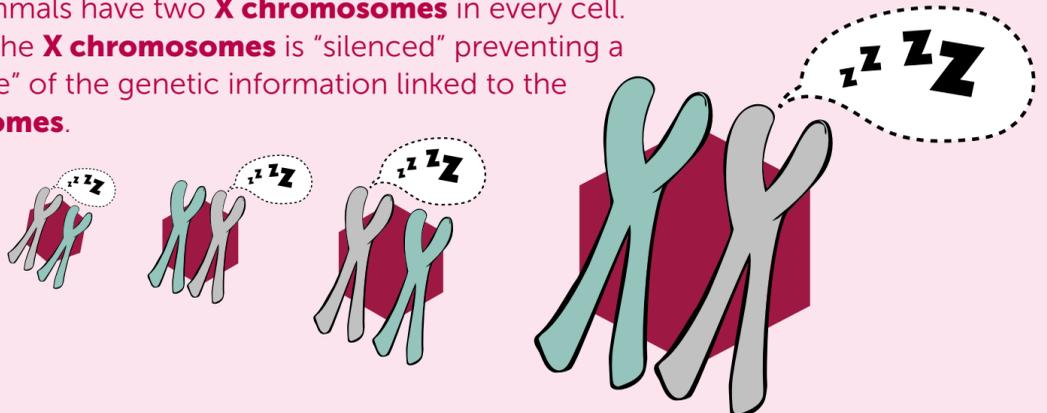
6 The **X chromosome** has about 1,000 genes, **10** times the number of genes in the **Y chromosome**.



7 The **XY** sex determination system is found in humans, most other mammals, some insects, and some plants.



8 Female mammals have two **X chromosomes** in every cell. But, one of the **X chromosomes** is "silenced" preventing a "double dose" of the genetic information linked to the **X chromosomes**.



9 Some women have a super color vision trait called tetrachromacy, which is linked to the **X chromosome**. These super women can see up to 100 million shades of color because they have four types of cone cells in their eye instead of the usual three.



10 Calico cat is not a breed but a distinctive coat color pattern linked to the **X chromosome**. Over **95%** of calico cats are females (**XX**).