

### Meiosis

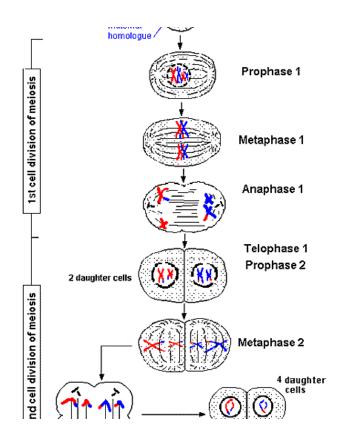
The process by which the number of chromosomes found in the somatic (body) cells of an organism is reduced by half to form the sex cells, egg & sperm.

Somatic cells have 46 chromosomes.

Sex cells have 23 chromosomes.

## Phases of Meiosis

- Meiosis takes place in 5 stages, stages 2 & 4 have 4 phases during each stage.
  - Stage 1: Interphase
  - Stage 2: Meiosis I
  - Stage 3: Cytokinesis I
  - Stage 4: Meiosis II
  - Stage 5: Cytokinesis II

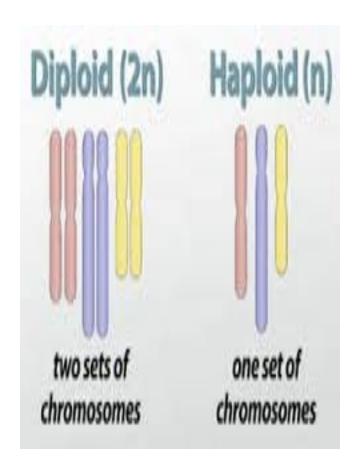


While the process of Meiosis bears a number of similarities with the cell division process of Mitosis, it differs in two important respects:

- The chromosomes in meiosis undergo a recombination or a shuffling of genes that produces a different genetic combination in each gamete or sex cell.
- 2. The outcome of Meiosis is four, genetically unique <u>haploid</u> cells, compared with the two (genetically identical) <u>diploid</u> cells produced from mitosis.

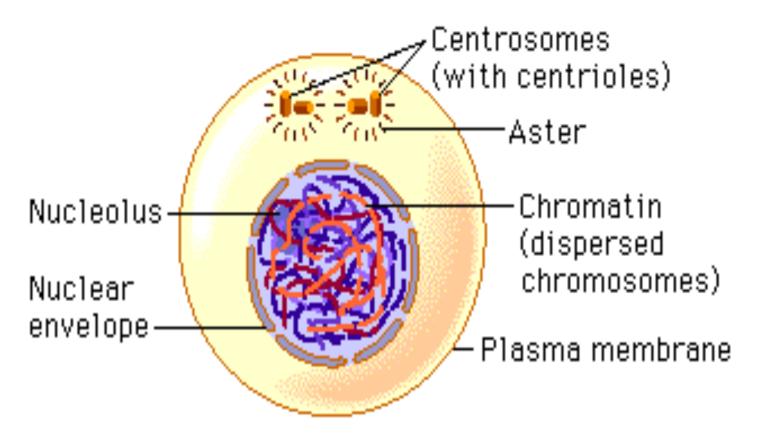
# Haploid vs Diploid

- Haploid: (n) is the number of chromosomes in a gamete (sex cell) of an individual.
- Diploid: (2n) describes cells have two copies of each chromosome, usually one from the mother and one from the father.



### Stage 1: Interphase

- The cell grows to its mature size.
- DNA replication takes place
  - The cell makes a copy of the genetic information contained within the nucleus.
- 2 cylindrical structures called centrioles are formed & copied.



Stage 2: Meiosis I

### Prophase I:

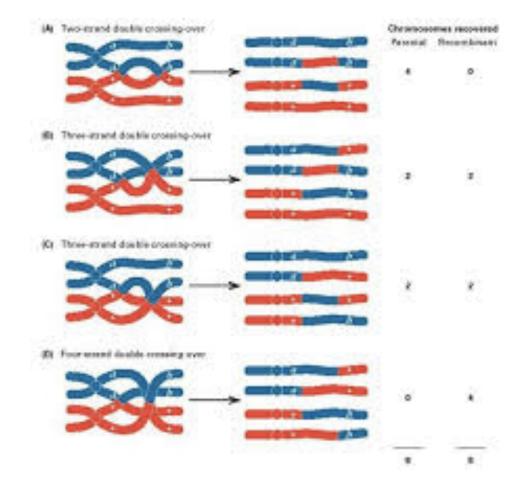
# Chromatin in the nucleus condenses to form 23 chromosome pairs.

- Spindle fibers form a bridge between the ends of the cell.
- Nuclear envelope breaks down.

	2	3	4	5	6
7	<b>8</b>	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22		× Y

# Gene Recombination

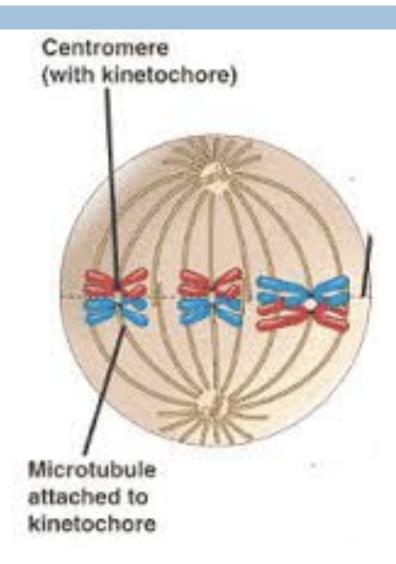
- Gene recombination occurs
  - Genes between mom & dad's chromosomes are exchanged or swopped between the chromosomes resulting in genes from mom moving to dad's chromosome & vice versa.



### Metaphase I:

Homologous Chromosome pairs line up across the center of the cell. Chromosomes attach to spindle

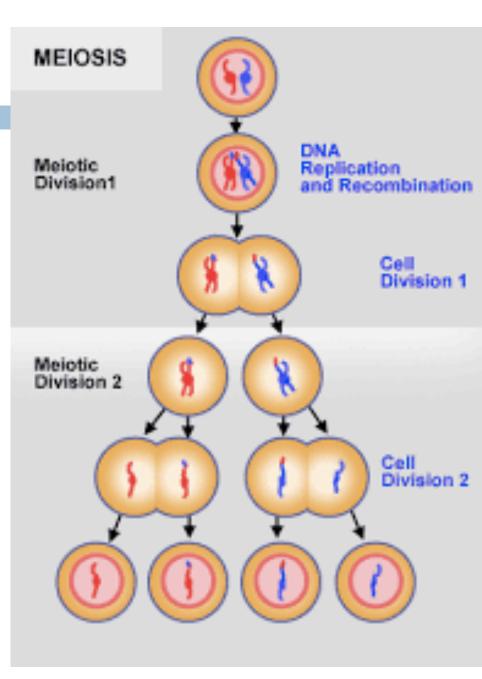
fibers.



#### Anaphase I

- Centromere's split.
- The chromosome pairs separate in half.
- Each chromosome pair is pulled into different halves of the cell.
- Cell stretches out as the opposite ends are pushed apart.
- Telophase I
  - Cytoplasm divides.
  - Nucleus splits.
  - A new cell membrane forms around the newly created cells.
  - At the end of Telophase I, 2 cells have been created.

Stage 3:
 Cytokinesis I
 The cell divides into 2 new cells.

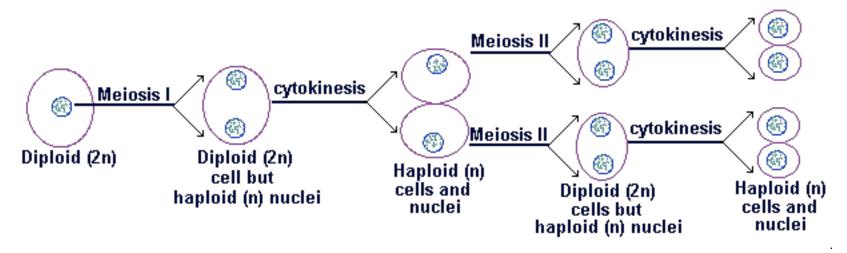


### □ Stage 4: Meiosis II

Meiosis II is essentially the process of Mitosis.
 Prophase II:

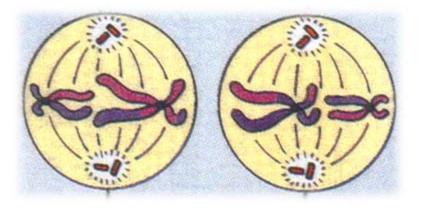
Centrioles move to opposite sides of the nucleus.

Spindle fibers form a bridge between the ends of the cell.



### Metaphase II:

- Chromosomes line up across the center of the cell.
- Each chromosome attaches to a spindle fiber at its centromere.



### Anaphase II:

The centromere split.

The 2 chromatids separate.
 Chromatid: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of a chromosome

- I chromatid is drawn by its spindle fiber to 1 end of the cell. Se
- The other chromatid moves to the opposite end.
- Cell stretches out as the opposite ends are pushed apart.



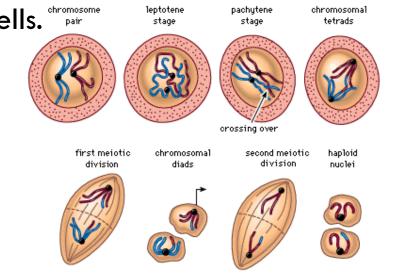
Chromatides soeurs se séparant

#### Telophase II

- Chromosomes begin to stretch out & lose their rod like appearance.
- A new nuclear envelope forms around each region of chromosomes.

### □ Stage 5: Cytokinesis II

- The cytoplasm divides.
- 4 new cell membranes form around the 4 new cells.
- The new cells have <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of the chromosomes found in regular body cells.
  <sup>chromosome</sup> <sup>leptotene</sup> <sup>stage</sup> <sup>pachytene</sup> <sup>stage</sup> <sup>chromosomal</sup> <sup>tetrads</sup>



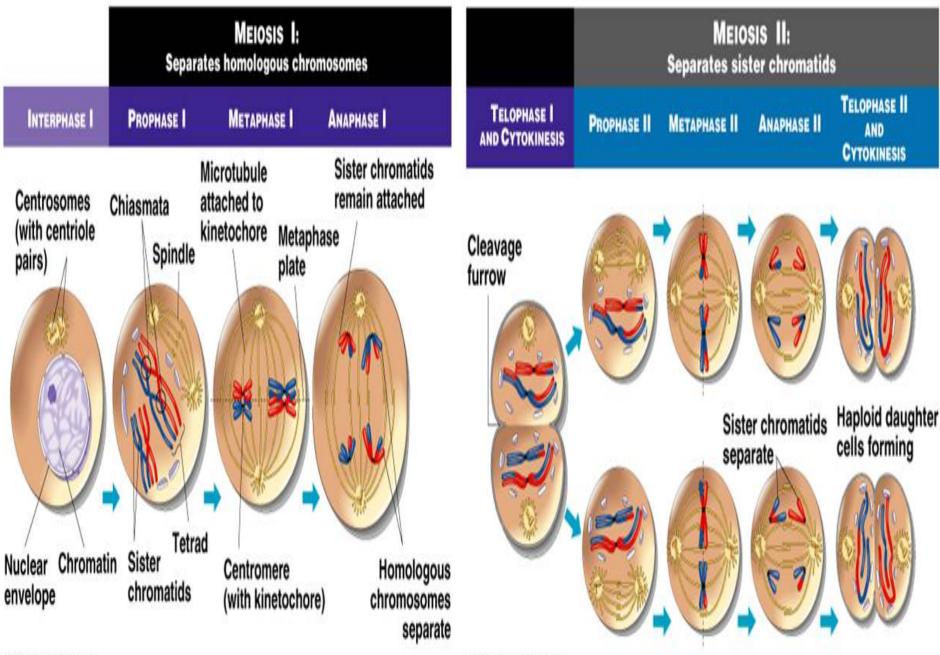
©1998 Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc.

□ Girls go through Meiosis during their development in the womb.

- The eggs are not mature however.
- The eggs mature at the onset of puberty.
- Women stop releasing eggs at the onset of menopause.



- Boys begin the process of Meiosis during puberty.
  - The productions of sperm cells signals the beginning of Meiosis in males.
    Meiosis continues in boys/men until death once it begins in puberty.



@Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.

@Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.