

# Extracting evidence

Around 1,500 sperm are made within the testes of a human male every second. Each spermatozoon has a tail to enable it to move and a head packed with DNA (seen as ovals). DNA from a sample of sperm can be extracted by scientists working in forensic pathology using polymerase chain reaction to amplify it enough to identify the person it came from. DNA fingerprinting focuses on variable, repetitive areas of DNA to produce a unique profile for each person.

Draw DNA in the heads of the sperm. Add colour to DNA and tails to make them beautiful. A sperm cell, when fused with an egg, is the start of a new life.

The bar at the bottom represents ten micrometres (one hundredth of a millimetre). Two sperm lengthwise would fit across the width of a human hair.



**Forensic Pathology**  
*Sperm cells*