

## What is DNA Extraction?

⌘ A routine procedure to collect DNA for subsequent molecular or forensic analysis.

⌘ DNA is extracted from human cells for a variety of reasons. With a pure sample of DNA you can test a newborn for a genetic disease, analyze forensic evidence, or study a gene involved in cancer.

## Steps to DNA Extraction

1. Breaking the cells open to expose DNA
2. Remove membrane lipids by adding detergent
3. Precipitate DNA with an alcohol — usually ethanol or isopropanol. Since DNA is insoluble in these alcohols, it will aggregate together, giving a *pellet* upon centrifugation. This step also removes alcohol-soluble salt.