

KEY FACTS

- Continuous: range of values, many genes + environment
- Discontinuous: distinct categories, usually one gene
- Mutation: change in DNA base sequence — random, mostly neutral

KEY TERMS

Mutation	Change in DNA base sequence — source of all new alleles
Continuous variation	Range of values — normal distribution
Discontinuous variation	Distinct categories — no intermediates

■ EXAM TIP: Mutations in gametes = heritable. Mutations in body cells = not heritable. Most mutations = neutral.