



IMPORTANT: You must register your kit. Unregistered kits cannot be sequenced!

PROCEDURE

- 1 REGISTER YOUR KIT at:
<https://darwinsark.org/register-kit>
Login and select the cat you want to connect to the kit.
Enter the kit's barcode and verification code. Submit.
- 2 Remove the tube from the mailer and write your cat's name on the tube.
- 3 Wash your hands with soap and water.
Dry your hands thoroughly.
- 4 Remove comb from the tube (pull cap off, not twist).
- 5 Collect a fur sample from your cat.
 - Comb in the **same direction** as fur growth, from head to tail. Comb on the cat's back or side, but not between their shoulder blades to avoid flea & tick treatment application location.
 - Start combing at the base of the fur near the skin and pull up.
 - Keep combing until you have about as much fur as shown in the center photo below.

Too little



Just right



Too much



- 6 Place the comb back into the tube. **Do NOT** remove the fur from the comb. Put the cap back on the tube.
- 7 Place the tube with the comb and fur back into the padded mailer (which has a pre-addressed return label). Close and seal the mailer.
- 8 Return via USPS at any mailbox or post office.



This self-collection kit provides materials and instructions for the non-invasive collection of cat fur samples for genetic sequencing.

PRECAUTIONS

- Collect sample for **ONE CAT AT A TIME**.
- **Read all instructions** prior to collection.
- Do **NOT** forget to wash your hands.
- Do **NOT** forget to write your cat's name on the tube.
- Do **NOT** use the same comb on more than one cat.
- Do **NOT** clean sample areas with alcohol.
- Do **NOT** refrigerate or freeze collected samples.

Intended use: For the collection of cat DNA from fur samples.

If you have any questions, reach out to us at team@darwinsark.org