

#### Step 1. Buy a DNA Test Kit

Paypal. Pay to this email: Robin.Loreth@DobermanDiversityProject.ORG Cost: \$135 (Only \$130.25 if paid as a "friend").

#### Step 2. Enroll with the Doberman Diversity Project

**Testing with Embark does NOT make you a part of the Doberman Diversity Project. You must ENROLL your dog with the DDP.**

Enrolling is essential to ensure that your dog's genomic test results are shared with other Doberman genetic researchers around the world. Finding, testing, and reducing the DNA to digital genomic research-ready data for is a big expense for researchers. The DDP shares this valuable data with researchers FREE of charge. Ensure your dog supports research. ENROLL your dog in the DDP.

**ENROLL each of your tested dogs with the Doberman Diversity Project at this link:**

<https://www.dobermandiversityproject.org/enroll-a-tested-dog.html>

**Alternatively, you can email us (Robin.Loreth@DobermanDiversityProject.ORG) with:** Your name, email and mailing address, and your dog's Registered name, call name, sex, date of birth, country of birth, microchip number, registration number, breeder's name, Breeder's Kennel Name, mother's registered name and father's registered name.

#### Step 3. Create an Embark Account

Use your email and a password (not Facebook) to create YOUR account. Go to SETTINGS and complete your profile. In Settings, create a **Breeder's Profile** (this will make the Virtual Mating Tool to appear). Update your settings to SHARE your dog's information (note that the default sharing setting is set to HIDE your results). Sharing is necessary for the Virtual Mating Tool to work properly.

#### Step 4. Add your DOG to your Embark Acct

While in your EmbarkVet.com account, add each dog you are testing. In your dog's page, please edit your dog's settings to add the dog's date of birth, registration number, etc. Please add a photo and/or video of your dog, if your dog is a potential breeding dog.

#### Step 5. Your Test Kits Arrive. Now what?

When your test kits arrive, take a moment to inspect each kit. Note that EACH kit has it's own test tube (containing liquid) and a bright yellow sticker with an Activation Code (something like EM-0123456). Decide which kit you will use for each of your dogs and complete the small sticker/form on each test tube/envelope. **It is VERY IMPORTANT that you ACTIVATE each DNA kit using the Activation Code for each dog** (be careful to match the right kit to the right dog as this is how each test tube's results attach to the correct dog). **TIP:** Take a photo of each test tube (the bar code AND the long number beneath the bar code which will be similar to 3100 1708 123456) and each kit's Activation Code (the yellow sticker). Save these photos for your records.

#### Step 6. Prepare your dog.

Crate or separate your dogs from each other and away from food, water and any DNA-laden friends, blankets or toys for 30 minutes. If testing more than one dog, lay out each test kit (activated to each specific dog's profile) so you know which kit to use on each dog.

#### Step 7. Swab your Dog

After 30 minutes, let your dog out of the crate and into an area where there are no other dogs. We like to use the kitchen and in front of the dog, cut up some yummy treats on the counter in front of the dog to be tested. When the River of Drool begins to flow, it's time to swab. Remove the swab and carefully swab the inside of your dog's cheek/jaw, working to load the sponge-tipped swab with CHEEK cells and saliva. Swab for at least 30 seconds. If possible, swab for 60 seconds. If you don't get enough DNA for the test to be processed, Embark will send another kit at no charge to try again, but note that the processing time is six to eight weeks and finding out (after eight weeks) that your swab didn't contain enough cheek cells and starting the process again is quite aggravating. So swab and load that DNA collection tip! When the tip is loaded, place it into the vial containing the liquid, seal it tightly, and shake the tube containing the swab for ten seconds to mix the liquid with the DNA sample.

#### Step 8. Send the Kits back to Embark

Complete your paperwork (filling out the labels, snapping pictures and making sure the right kit is Activated to the right dog) and place the completed swab/test tube assembly in the return envelope and mail it back to Embark for processing.

Inside the USA? Use the envelope with the pre-addressed/pre-paid return label on it.

Outside the USA? Mail your kits to: Embark Vet, Attn Logistics Team, 77 Summer Street, #502, Boston MA 02210 USA

#### Step 9. Swab your Dog

Wait six to eight weeks from the date the DNA samples arrives at the testing laboratory (Illumina in California).

#### Step 10. Results arrive. Send your Results to the DDP.

**Here's how:** 1. Log into your Embark account. 2. Go to your dog's results and click on the ADVANCED tab. Scroll down until you see "Raw Data BETA" and click where it says "Click Here". 3. Download TWO files: "download zip file" (that's the BIG raw genomic data file) and "download as CSV". 4. Take two screenshots: One screenshot of the COI Bell Curve and one screenshot of the blue and yellow karyogram. Please try to save these as a good quality JPEG file; they are going into your DDP One-Page Genetic Summary Report and the better the quality your image is, the better your report will look. 5. Create an email addressed to Robin.Loreth@DobermanDiversityProject.ORG and attach the two screenshots and the two downloaded files.

#### Step 11. Send us your dog's Health Records

Research is often only as good as the health records that accompany the raw genomic data. We want your dog's health records. If you have a Holter, send us the results. Echo? Send it. Blood tests? Send them. We want everything. Send all of your dog's health records to Dr. Sophie Liu at [Sophie.Liu@DobermanDiversityProject.ORG](mailto:Sophie.Liu@DobermanDiversityProject.ORG).