

Dominant or Recessive?

You inherited half of your DNA from your mother and half from your father. (But did you know you don't inherit 25% from each grandparent? It could be that you get 30% from your mom's mom and 20% from your mom's dad). Inside your DNA are your genes. Genes determine your traits. Some genes determine eye color and some determine if you'll have freckles. You inherited two genes for each trait, one from each parent. Some genes are dominant over the other genes. For example, the 'freckles gene' is dominant, and the 'no freckles' gene is recessive. If you get one of each of these genes, the freckles gene is dominant and you'll have freckles. Here's a chart showing which genes are dominant and recessive for your chart.

Hitchhiker's thumb	Straight thumb dominant, hitch-hiker thumb recessive
Freckles	Freckles dominant, no freckles recessive
Cheek dimples	Dimples dominant, no dimples recessive
Attached Earlobes	Free lobe dominant, attached recessive
Tongue roll	Roller dominant, nonroller recessive
Long second toe	Long second toe dominant, shorter second toe recessive