## Phases of Meiosis



- Meiosis is a process in which the number of chromosomes per cell is cut in half through the separation of homologous chromosomes in a diploid cell.
- Meiosis usually involves two divisions:
- Meiosis I
- Meiosis II
- The parent diploid cell becomes four haploid daughter cells by the end of meiosis II.


## Interphase

- Chromosomes replicate.
- Each replicated chromosome consists of two identical chromatids joined at the centromere.
- Centrioles replicate.

Interphase

## Prophase I

- Chromosomes condense.
- Nucleus disappears.
- Spindle fibers form.
- Homologous pairs of chromosomes form tetrads (4 chromatids).



## Prophase I

- Crossing-over occurs.
- As homologous chromosomes pair up and form tetrads, segments of DNA are exchanged between chromatids.



## Metaphase I

- Tetrads, paired homologous chromosomes, line up in the middle of the cell.


## Anaphase I

- Homologous pairs are separated and move to opposite ends of the cell.
- Sister chromatids remain attached.

Anaphase I

## Telophase I and Cytokinesis

- Chromosomes unwind.
- Spindle fibers disappear.
- Nuclei form around chromosomes.
- Cytoplasm divides producing 2 haploid daughter cells.

Telophase I and Cytokinesis

## After Meiosis I

- Two daughter cells:
- Each haploid = "One set" of chromosomes
- Each chromosomes has sister chromatids
- Not identical


## Prophase II

- Chromosomes condense.
- Nucleus disappears.
- Spindle fibers form.
- Centrioles replicate.

> Prophase II

## Metaphase II

- Single chromosomes line up in the middle of the cell.

Metaphase II

## Anaphase II

- Sister chromatids are separated and move to opposite ends of the cell.

Anaphase II

## Telophase II and Cytokinesis

- Chromosomes unwind.
- Spindle fibers disappear.
- Nuclei form around chromosomes.
- Cytoplasm divides producing 4 different haploid daughter cells.

Telophase II and Cytokinesis

## After Meiosis II: Gametes

- The haploid cells produced by meiosis II are gametes.
- Gametes are reproductive sex cells.
- Female gametes = egg cells
- Male gametes = sperm cells
- Haploid gametes join together during fertilization to produce a diploid zygote.


