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Base Pair

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Source

National Cancer Institute (NCI). Base pair.

Two nitrogen-containing bases pair together between double-stranded DNA; only specific combinations of these bases (e.g., adenine with thymine; guanine with cytosine) are possible, a fact which facilitates accurate DNA replication; when quantified (e.g., 8 base pairs, or bp), this term refers to the actual number of base pairs in a sequence of nucleotides.