



American Red Cross

KNOW YOUR BLOOD TYPE



YOUR BLOOD TYPE IS INHERITED

Just like eye color, blood type is passed genetically from your parents. Whether your blood group is type A, B, AB, or O is based on the blood types of your mother and father. The chart below illustrates the possibilities.

Parent 1		AB	AB	AB	AB	B	A	A	O	O	O
Parent 2		AB	B	A	O	B	B	A	B	A	O
Possible Blood Type of Child	O					●	●	●	●	●	●
	A	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	
	B	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		
	AB	●	●	●			●				

FACT: Every 2 seconds someone in the US needs either blood or platelet donations to survive. Be a hero, help by donating your blood.

Visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule or call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule a donation.

BLOOD TYPING IS VITAL

Blood types are determined by the presence or absence of certain antigens—substances that can trigger an immune response if they are foreign to the body. Since some antigens can trigger a patient’s immune system to attack the transfused blood, safe blood transfusions depend on careful blood typing and cross-matching. Knowing which blood types are compatible with you is important if you ever need a transfusion or to help those in need of your type.

Your Type	You can give blood to	You can receive blood from
A+	A+, AB+	A+, A-, O+, O-
O+	O+, A+, B+, AB+	O+, O-
B+	B+, AB+	B+, B-, O+, O-
AB+	AB+	Everyone
A-	A+, A-, AB+, AB-	A-, O-
O-	Everyone	O-
B-	B+, B-, AB+, AB-	B-, O-
AB-	AB+, AB-	AB-, A-, B-, O-

Every blood type is in need, but some are either rare or in high demand due to the versatility. **Which one are you?**

BLOOD TYPES WITHIN THE POPULATION

Type	Caucasian	African American	Hispanic	Asian
O+	37%	47%	53%	39%
O-	8%	4%	4%	1%
A+	33%	24%	29%	27%
A-	7%	2%	2%	.5%
B+	9%	18%	9%	25%
B-	2%	1%	1%	.4%
AB+	3%	4%	2%	7%
AB-	1%	.3%	.2%	.1%