

DID YOU KNOW ?

**Humans and
bananas have 50%
of the same DNA**



SWIPE ►

Do bananas and humans have the same genes?

There are similarities between humans and bananas as they share about 50 percent of the same genes. Although humans and bananas are not genetically related, there are similarities among them.

Why Are Some DNA Sequences of a Banana and a Human Being Similar

The scientists compared the protein sequence from each banana gene to every human gene. From that, they culled a degree of similarity, about 60 percent of human genes have a recognizable counterpart in the banana genome! "Of those 60 percent, the proteins encoded by them are roughly 40 percent identical when compared to the amino acid sequence of the human protein to its equivalent in the banana.

Human vs. Banana

DNA and protein products are two very different things. Brody says that an easy way to think of DNA is as the blueprint of a house. In each house, a bunch of things are similar (plumbing, bathrooms, kitchen) but the end products are quite different.

So, when people repeat the percentage as being "a similarity of DNA," the researchers looked at the similarity of gene products and genes make up just 2 percent of DNA. Humans don't just share a high percentage of DNA with bananas but also share 85% with a mouse, 61 % with a fruit fly, and 1 percent of their DNA with other fruits as well. This is because all life on earth has evolved from a single cell that originated about 1.6 billion years ago.

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