

TABLE 12.2. Major classes of transposable elements

Type	Characteristics
Retroelements (RNA elements)	Original element is transcribed into RNA, reverse transcribed into DNA, and then inserted into the genome.
Retrotransposon (LTR)	Retroelement that possess LTRs
Retroposon (non-LTR)	Retroelement that does not possess LTRs
DNA elements	Found in DNA genomes. Do not function through an RNA intermediate
Replicative	Original element is copied at the DNA level and inserted elsewhere in the genome, resulting in a duplication.
Nonreplicative (conservative)	Element moves via excision from the original location and insertion into a new location.

LTR, long terminal repeat