It is important that you carefully follow the instructions for the test in order to get an accurate result. Improper collection of the semen sample may cause errors. Testing a sample collected less than 48 hours after your last previous ejaculation may produce an incorrect result. Not collecting the entire ejaculate, especially the initial drops of the ejaculate, can affect the overall sperm concentration of the sample and lead to an incorrect result. Not adding the correct amount of semen to the SpermCheck Solution Bottle, or the correct number of drops of semen mixture to the test device can lead to an error. Failure of the ejaculate to liquefy adequately can also affect the accuracy of the results. Poor vision, color blindness or poor lighting may affect your ability to read and interpret the test correctly. Adding the semen mixture directly to the results window instead of to the sample well can also cause an erroneous result. Although a number of drugs, disease organisms, and non-semen body fluids that might be found in the male reproductive tract have been tested and found to interfere with the SpermCheck Fertility test, it is possible that other substances or medical conditions may have been tested that may have affected your test results. Since illness can also temporarily reduce your sperm count, you should not take the test if your are (or recently have been) sick.

Q3. What does a negative test result mean?
A3. A negative test result indicates that your sperm count is less than 20 million per milliliter, which is below that of most fertile men. However, some men with sperm counts below this level are still able to father children naturally. It is also important to understand that your sperm count can vary from day to day, so it is possible that you might get a positive result if you were to wait a while and test again. However, we recommend that you talk to a doctor about your test result and have a complete semen analysis to determine just how low your sperm count is and whether you have any other sperm abnormalities that could affect your fertility status. It is particularly important to consult a physician if you and your partner have been trying to conceive a child for a year or more without success.

Q4. My semen sample did not become a thin liquid after 20 minutes. Can I still perform the test?
A4. Some semen samples will not liquefy as quickly as or as fully as others. The SpermCheck device may still give an accurate result even if your sample does not completely liquefy. It is important that you have allowed the sample to stand for at least 20 minutes and mixed it at directed, avoiding any solid material when adding semen to the SpermCheck Solution Bottle. Letting it stand longer (up to three hours) may help it become more liquid. Keeping the semen near body temperature (but no warmer than 98˚F) by carefully floating the cup containing the sample in a bowl of shallow warm water may also help the sample liquefy. DO NOT MICROWAVE. Fill the Semen Transfer Device with semen from the part of the sample where it is most liquid. If your sample has not liquefied at all, or if you cannot fill the Semen Transfer Device to the bottom of the raised frosted line without it clogging with solid or stringy material, you should discard the sample. Wait at least 48 hours and collect another semen sample. If you have this problem again with the second sample, SpermCheck may not work properly for you. If you feel that your semen did not liquefy adequately and you could not perform the test, or if you did perform the test but are concerned that this may have affected your test results, you should consider consulting your doctor for a semen analysis and evaluation.

Q5. The test line was not visible when I looked at it at 7 minutes, but was visible when I looked at it again after 15 minutes. Does this mean that my test result is really positive?
A5. The correct result is the test you observe at 7 minutes after adding the semen mixture to the sample well. A Test Line that is not visible may develop some color when the SpermCheck Device sits past the correct reading time. That is why you must read the test result at 7 minutes. Reading the test less than 7 minutes or more than 7 minutes after adding the semen mixture to the SpermCheck Device may give an incorrect result or one that cannot be interpreted.

Q6. What else may cause errors in the test result?
A6. It is important that you carefully follow the instructions for the test in order to get an accurate result. Improper collection of the semen sample may cause errors. Testing a sample collected less than 48 hours after your last previous ejaculation may produce an incorrect result. Not collecting the entire ejaculate, especially the initial drops of the ejaculate, can affect the overall sperm concentration of the sample and lead to an incorrect result. Not adding the correct amount of semen to the SpermCheck Solution Bottle, or the correct number of drops of semen mixture to the test device can lead to an error. Failure of the ejaculate to liquefy adequately can also affect the accuracy of the results. Poor vision, color blindness or poor lighting may affect your ability to read and interpret the test correctly. Adding the semen mixture directly to the results window instead of to the sample well can also cause an erroneous result. Although a number of drugs, disease organisms, and non-semen body fluids that might be found in the male reproductive tract have been tested and found to interfere with the SpermCheck Fertility test, it is possible that other substances or medical conditions may have been tested that may have affected your test results. Since illness can also temporarily reduce your sperm count, you should not take the test if you are (or recently have been) sick.
HOW TO PERFORM THE TEST

Place all of the test kit components on a flat surface within easy reach. Have a watch or timer ready before starting the test.

1. Let semen stand for at least twenty (20) minutes in the Semen Collection Cup before testing.

2. Use the Semen Transfer Device to gently stir the semen sample in the cup about 10 times until it is well mixed.

3. Put your finger through the round perforation area located on the side of the box. This will create a stand to hold the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle. Unscrew and remove the cap on the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle and place the bottle upright in the newly created stand.

4. Insert the Semen Transfer Device into the semen sample avoiding any solid or sticky material within the semen. Slowly pull the plunger to draw your sample into the Semen Transfer Device until it reaches the bottom of the raised frosted line. Avoid getting air bubbles in the Semen Transfer Device. If this happens, push the semen back out completely and then draw semen into the Semen Transfer Device again. Make sure the semen fills the Semen Transfer Device just to the bottom of the raised frosted line. Add or remove semen until it meets the bottom of the raised frosted line on the Semen Transfer Device exactly by moving the plunger up and down.

5. Insert the Semen Transfer Device with semen into the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle and push the plunger gently to add all of the semen to the SpermCheck® Solution. This creates the "semen mixture." Screw the cap back onto the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle and gently mix the contents thoroughly. This is best done by turning the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle upside down at least five to ten times. If your semen is very thick or stringy, you should mix an additional ten times. Do not shake the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle too hard as this could cause foaming which in turn might make the next step difficult.

6. Open the foil pouch containing the test device. Remove the SpermCheck® Device and lay it face up on a flat surface. Twist off the small cap on the tip of the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle cap.

7. Let the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle containing the semen mixture stand for two (2) minutes before proceeding to the next step. Push the plunger up and down to draw semen into the SpermCheck® Device exactly by moving the plunger up and down. If you see a Test Line (at the T position) in the result window, your sperm count is at least 20 million per milliliter. This "reference value" is based on the experience of many laboratories that have studied large numbers of healthy fertile men. About 90% of fertile men have sperm counts above 20 million per milliliter. However, a positive SpermCheck® Fertility test result alone does not prove that you are fertile. It is important to understand that several factors besides your sperm count could affect your ability to father a child. So if you and your partner have been trying to start a family without success for a year or more, you should see a doctor for a complete semen analysis and to discuss treatments that could benefit you, even if your SpermCheck® test result is positive.

8. Open the foil pouch containing the test device. Remove the SpermCheck® Device and lay it face up on a flat surface. Twist off the small cap on the tip of the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle cap.

9. Hold the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle with the semen mixture straight up and down over the device and squeeze gently to add exactly six (6) drops of the semen mixture to the sample well (S) of the test device. The sample well is the round opening marked with an "S" near the bottom of the device. Do not add more or less than 6 drops to the SpermCheck® Device sample well (S).

10. Timing begins after adding the SpermCheck® Solution to the sample well.

11. Read the result at seven (7) minutes. Do not read the test earlier or wait longer than 7 minutes since this may produce an incorrect result.

HOW TO READ THE TEST RESULTS

IMPORTANT NOTE: To read your test simply determine whether there is a line present or absent at the Control (C) and Test (T) positions on the device. Do not compare the lines to each other. It does not matter how strong or weak a particular line is. The Test Line may or may not be as dark as the Control Line. If you see any line at all at the Test (T) position and the Control (C) position, your test result is positive, no matter how faint the line is or how the Test Line compares to the Control Line.

Read the test in a well-lit area. First, look at the Control Line position in the results window (marked with the letter C). If the test worked properly, you should see a reddish line next to the C. If you do not see a line at the C position, your test did not run correctly and the results are not valid.

Next, look at the Test Line position in the result window (marked with the letter T). If you see a reddish line here, your sperm count is at least 20 million sperm per milliliter (positive). If you do not see a line at the T position, your sperm count is below 20 million sperm per milliliter (negative) and you should consult a physician about a complete fertility evaluation. Fertile men normally have 20 million sperm per milliliter or more.

WHAT THE RESULTS MEAN TO YOU

• If you see a Test Line (at the T position) in the result window, your sperm count is at least 20 million per milliliter.

• If you do not see a Test Line at the T position in the results window, your sperm count is less than 20 million per milliliter. However, a negative SpermCheck® Fertility test result alone does not prove that you are infertile. About 10% of fertile men have sperm counts below 20 million per milliliter, so you may still be able to father a child naturally. However, you should have a complete semen analysis and talk to a doctor about possible treatments for sub-fertility, especially if you and your partner have been trying to start a family without success.

REASONS FOR INCORRECT RESULTS

• Failure of the ejaculate to liquefy
• Adding the SpermCheck® Solution/semen mixture to the SpermCheck® Device too soon. The mixture should stand for two (2) minutes after adding the semen to the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle.
• Not mixing the semen well enough in the Semen Collection Cup before adding to the SpermCheck® Solution.
• Adding too much or too little semen with the Semen Transfer Device to the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle. Be sure to fill the Semen Transfer Device with semen exactly to the bottom of the raised frosted line.
• Not mixing the SpermCheck® Solution/semen mixture in the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle well enough before adding it to the SpermCheck® Device.
• Adding too much or too little of the SpermCheck® Solution/semen mixture to the SpermCheck® Device sample well. You must add exactly six (6) drops from the SpermCheck® Solution Bottle to the sample well.
• Adding semen mixture to the result window instead of the sample well. The sample well is the round opening marked with an “S” near the bottom of the SpermCheck® Device.
• Reading the test too soon or too late. You must read the test 7 minutes after adding the semen mixture to the sample well.

For technical services call 877-998-0892
Monday - Friday, 8 am - 8 pm EST
U.S. Patents 5,492,357, 5,682,926, and 5,852,163
SpermCheck is a registered trademark.

If you do not see a Control Line (at the C position) in the result window, your test did not run correctly and the results are not valid. You should test again with a new sample and a new SpermCheck® Fertility kit. Wait at least 48 hours, but not more than 7 days after your last ejaculation to retest.