

Source: [KBhBIO101Viruses](#)

1 | Retroviruses

Viruses that have the ability to intergrate into the chromosomes of the host cell

1.1 | Retroviruses, infection

Normal [KBhBIO101VirallInfection](#) infection stuff happen, but then...

- As the virus is uncoated, it uses an enzyme called “reverse transcriptase” to turn ssRNA to cDNA, and finally into dsDNA (template strand DNA).
- And, ready for this? The virus then uses an enzyme called **integrase** to thread the viral dsDNA into the cell’s normal nucleus

A bonus for HIV (which is a Retrovirus) — it utilizes **protease** to cut HIV’s polyproteins into individual parts ready for budding.

1.2 | Retroviruses, Late Stage

The proviral region (the part that makes virus) newly inserted to the cell’s DNA is transcribed slowly when normal [KBhBIO101CentralDogma](#) comes across it to synthesize proteins.