DNA Precipitation: Ethanol vs. Isopropanol

**In Short – Ethanol or Isopropanol?**

Use Ethanol If:

You have the space to fit two volumes of ethanol to sample in your tube.

The sample needs to be stored for a long period of time and will be chilled.

You need to precipitate very small DNA fragments.

Use Isopropanol If:

Your sample volume is large and you can only fit 1 volume of solvent to your tube.

You need large molecular weight species.

The DNA concentration in your sample is low.

You are in a hurry and want to accelerate the precipitation of nucleic acids at room temperature