1. Fusion of HIV to the host cell surface.

2. HIV RNA, reverse transcriptase, integrase, and other viral proteins enter the host cell.

3. Viral DNA is formed by reverse transcription.

4. Viral DNA is transported across the nucleus and integrates into the host DNA.

5. New viral RNA is used as genomic RNA and to make viral proteins.

6. New viral RNA and proteins move to the cell surface and a new, immature, HIV forms.

7. The virus matures by protease releasing individual HIV proteins.