Genomic DNA clean-up

User manual
NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS

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# Genomic DNA clean-up

## Protocol-at-a-glance (Rev. 05)

### NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prepare sample</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Adjust DNA binding conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3    | Bind DNA | Load 500 μL diluted sample 11,000 x g 30 s  
Load remaining sample 11,000 x g 30 s |
| 4    | Wash silica membrane | Turn spin cup inside the centrifuge by 180° compared to the loading position 100 μL B5  
11,000 x g 2 min |
| 5    | Elute DNA | 1. 6–15 μL BE  
11,000 x g 1 min  
2. 6–15 μL BE  
11,000 x g 1 min |
| 6    | Removal of residual ethanol and concentration | 90 °C  
8 min (2 x 10 μL elution) or 5 min (10 μL elution) |
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1 Components

1.1 Kit contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>10 preps</th>
<th>50 preps</th>
<th>250 preps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Binding Buffer NT</td>
<td>25 mL</td>
<td>25 mL</td>
<td>75 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wash Buffer B5 (Concentrate)*</td>
<td>6 mL</td>
<td>6 mL</td>
<td>6 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elution Buffer BE**</td>
<td>13 mL</td>
<td>13 mL</td>
<td>13 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns (light green rings)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Tubes (2 mL)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>3 x 50</td>
<td>3 x 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User manual</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For preparation of working solutions and storage conditions see section 3.
** Composition of Elution Buffer BE: 5 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.5
1.2 Reagents, consumables, and equipment to be supplied by user

Reagents

• 96–100 % ethanol
• Buffer TE (e.g., 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 0.1 mM EDTA)

Consumables

• 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes (for sample lysis and DNA elution)
• Disposable pipette tips

Equipment

• Manual pipettors
• Thermal heating block
• Centrifuge for microcentrifuge tubes
• Personal protection equipment (lab coat, gloves, goggles)

1.3 About this user manual

It is strongly recommended that first-time users of the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS kit read the detailed protocol sections of this user manual. Experienced users, however, may refer to the Protocol-at-a-glance instead. The Protocol-at-a-glance is designed to be used only as a supplemental tool for quick referencing while performing the purification procedure.

All technical literature is available on the internet at www.mn-net.com.
2 Product description

2.1 Basic principle

The NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS kit is designed for a fast and convenient purification of genomic DNA from aqueous samples (e.g., phenol / chloroform extracts). PCR inhibitors (e.g., indigo) are efficiently removed and DNA is concentrated with high recovery. Due to its high sensitivity the kit is particularly well suited for trace levels of DNA from forensic samples. The optimized protocol allows for up to 400 μL of aqueous sample to be processed without the need for error-prone repeated loading steps. However, multiple loading steps can be used without difficulty to process larger sample volumes. The special funnel design of the thrust rings inside the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column in combination with the very small membrane allows for high recovery with very small elution volumes (5–30 μL) which results in highly concentrated DNA.

Appropriate conditions under which DNA binds to the silica membrane are created by addition of Binding Buffer NT. The mixture is then applied to the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column and the DNA binds to a silica membrane. A subsequent washing step efficiently removes contaminations and highly pure DNA is finally eluted with 5–30 μL of a slightly alkaline elution buffer of low ionic strength (5 mM Tris/HCl pH 8.5).

2.2 Kit specifications

- The NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS kit is recommended for the purification and concentration of genomic DNA from very dilute aqueous samples. Typical sample materials comprise for example PCR inhibitor containing solutions, Proteinase K reaction mixtures, or the aqueous phase of phenol/chloroform extractions.
- The robust membrane allows for multiple loading steps to process even large sample volumes.
- The special column design and the very small membrane lead to a significantly reduced dead volume which allows for high recovery of small amounts of DNA with as little as 5–30 μL elution buffer.
- DNA is ready-to-use for all common downstream applications like (e.g., real-time PCR).
- The preparation time is approximately 20 min for 6–12 samples.
Table 1: Kit specifications at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample material</td>
<td>&lt; 400 μL solution containing &lt; 2 μg DNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical recovery</td>
<td>60–70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragment size</td>
<td>100 bp–approx. 50 kbp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A_{260}/A_{280})</td>
<td>1.8–1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elution volume</td>
<td>6–15 μL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation time</td>
<td>20 min/6 preps (exclusive preceding extraction or lysis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Mini spin column – XS design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Forensic quality product:**

  **NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** is certified as forensic quality product. Consumables used in forensics need to be treated carefully to prevent DNA contamination. MACHEREY-NAGEL therefore has a stringently controlled production process to avoid DNA contamination of consumables. Further, MACHEREY-NAGEL uses ethylene oxide (EO) treatment to remove amplifiable DNA, which might still be introduced during the manufacturing process. MACHEREY-NAGEL products carrying the forensic quality seal, contain plastic materials that are EO treated. This means, DNA of any kind, which might still be introduced into plastic consumables during the production process, is inactivated by means of the treatment with ethylene oxide, in order to prevent the generation of accidental human profile by PCR amplification. Ethylene oxide treatment has been shown to be the method of choice to prevent DNA profiles due to DNA contamination (Shaw et al. 2008; Figure 1).

![Graph](image)

**Figure 1:** According to Shaw et al., 2008, Comparison of the effects of sterilization techniques on subsequent DNA profiling. Int J Legal Med 122: 29-33.
2.3 Handling of sample material

The *NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS* procedure is designed for very small amounts of genomic DNA and the typical downstream applications are thus very sensitive. It is consequently highly recommended to perform sampling and DNA purification with special care, in order to avoid a contamination of the sample or the purified DNA with unwanted DNA-containing material (e.g., fingerprints, hair particles, aerosol, dust).

Moreover, a cross-contamination between samples has to be excluded. The following precautions are recommended:

- Wear personal protection equipment (lab coat, gloves, goggles).
- Use aerosol resistant pipette tips.
- Always change pipette tips between liquid transfers.
- Briefly centrifuge after mixing steps in order to remove droplets from tube lid.

2.4 Elution procedures

A high DNA concentration in the elution fraction is of importance and desirable for all typical downstream applications. This is of particular interest if the total volume of a reaction mixture is limited as this in turn limits the possible amount of DNA that can be added. Due to a high default elution volume, classical DNA clean-up kits often result in weakly concentrated DNA, if only small amounts of DNA are processed.

Such DNA may even require a subsequent concentration before it can be used for typical downstream applications.

In contrast to classical kits, *NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS* allows for efficient elution in a very small volume which results in highly concentrated DNA.

For forensic samples elution with 2 x 6 μL is recommended to maximize concentration and yield. A two-fold elution generally yields more DNA than just one elution with the same total buffer volume. Optionally, the second elution can be omitted to achieve the highest possible DNA concentration.

In general, larger volumes (10–30 μL) increase the overall DNA yield but naturally reduce the final DNA concentration. Elution buffer volumes > 30 μL will only slightly increase total DNA yield.

2.5 Concentration and removal of residual ethanol

For most applications removal of trace levels of ethanol is not required. However, if a large volume of eluate has to be used as PCR template a heat incubation of the eluate is recommended. An incubation of for example 8 min at 90 °C for a 20 μL eluate removes residual ethanol in the eluate and concentrates the DNA to approximately 11 μL resulting in a significantly increased sensitivity in downstream applications.
The template may then represent up to 40% of the total PCR reaction volume. The necessity of this step may be individually tested.

An incubation at 90 °C, however, will denature DNA. If non-denatured DNA is required for downstream applications other than PCR (e.g., ligation or cloning) we recommend an incubation of 17 min at 75 °C to remove ethanol from an eluate of 20 μL.

Even if ethanol is of no concern for the downstream application the heat incubation is a useful means to concentrate an eluate. Use Figure 2 to estimate the necessary incubation time depending on your elution volume and the intended final volume. Take into consideration that incubation times may vary depending on the heating block or microcentrifuge tubes that are used. Shaking the tubes during incubation increases the evaporation rate even more.

![Figure 2: Concentration and removal of residual ethanol from eluates by heat treatment.](image)

Eluates of 10, 20, and 30 μL were incubated at 75 °C (non-denaturing) and 90 °C (denaturing) for 0–40 min without shaking. Choose your final volume and read the necessary incubation time from the appropriate curve. For other starting volumes just interpolate the array of curves.
3 Storage conditions and preparation of working solutions

Attention:

Buffer NT contains guanidinium thiocyanate. Wear gloves and goggles!

Storage conditions:

- All kit components can be stored at room temperature (18–25 °C) and are stable for at least one year.

Before starting any NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS protocol prepare the following:

- **Wash Buffer B5**: Add the indicated volume of ethanol (96–100 %) to Buffer B5 Concentrate. Mark the label of the bottle to indicate that ethanol was added. Wash Buffer B5 can be stored at room temperature (18–25 °C) for at least one year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>740904.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wash Buffer B5 (Concentrate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 mL Add 24 mL ethanol</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Safety instructions

The following components of the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS kits contain hazardous contents.

Wear gloves and goggles and follow the safety instructions given in this section.

GHS classification

Only harmful features must not be labeled with H and P phrases up to 125 mL or 125 g.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Hazard contents</th>
<th>GHS symbol</th>
<th>Hazard phrases</th>
<th>Precaution phrases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>Guanidinium thiocyanate 30–60 %</td>
<td>⚠️</td>
<td>Warning 302, 412, EUH031</td>
<td>260, 273, 301+312, 330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guanidiniumthiocyanat 30–60 %</td>
<td>⚠️</td>
<td>Achtung</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hazard phrases

H 302 Harmful if swallowed.  
Gesundheitsschädlich bei Verschlucken.

H 412 Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.  
Schädlich für Wasserorganismen, mit langfristiger Wirkung.

EUH031 Contact with acids liberates toxic gas.  
Entwickelt bei Berührung mit Säure giftige Säure.

Precaution phrases

P 260 Do not breathe vapours.  
Dampf nicht einatmen.

P 273 Avoid release to the environment.  
Freisetzung in die Umwelt vermeiden.

P 301+312 IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTER/ doctor/…/if you feel unwell.  
BEI VERSCHLUCKEN: Bei Unwohlsein GIFTINFORMATIONSZENTRUM / Arzt/… anrufen.

P 330 Rinse mouth.  
Mund ausspülen.

For further information please see Material Safety Data Sheets (www.mn-net.com).  
Weiterführende Informationen finden Sie in den Sicherheitsdatenblättern (www.mn-net.com).
5 NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS protocol

Before starting the preparation:

- Check if Wash Buffer B5 was prepared according to section 3.
- Prepare buffer TE (e.g., 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.5, 0.1 mM EDTA)

1 Prepare sample

Note: The following dilution step with TE buffer might not be necessary for highly concentrated samples, for uncomplicated pre-purified DNA, or non-forensic samples.

For < 400 μL sample solution, dilute with buffer TE (not provided) to a final volume of 800 μL.

For > 400 μL sample solution, add 1 vol of buffer TE and increase Buffer NT proportionally in step 2.

Mix thoroughly by vortexing and spin down briefly to clear the lid.

2 Adjust DNA binding conditions

Add 200 μL Buffer NT per 800 μL diluted or undiluted sample (e.g., add 100 μL Buffer NT to 400 μL sample).

Mix thoroughly by vortexing. Spin down briefly to clear the lid.

3 Bind DNA

For each sample, place one NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column into a Collection Tube (2 mL).

Add 500 μL of binding mixture to the column. Centrifuge for 30 s at 11,000 x g and discard the flow-through.

Add the remaining binding mixture to the column and centrifuge for 30 s at 11,000 x g.

Place the column into a new Collection Tube (2 mL).
4 Wash silica membrane

Turn the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column inside the centrifuge by 180° compared to the loading position in order to allow optimal washing efficiency.

Add 100 μL Buffer B5.

Centrifuge for 2 min at 11,000 x g.

5 Elute DNA

Place the NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS Column into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube (not supplied).

Add 6–15 μL Buffer BE directly to the center of the membrane.

Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g.

Add another 6–15 μL Buffer BE directly to the center of the membrane.

Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g.

Note: The elution volume can be varied from 5–30 μL. The second elution step can be omitted leading to higher concentration but lower yield. See section 2.4 for more information.

6 Removal of residual ethanol and concentration

Incubate eluate with open lid at 90 °C for 8 min (2 x 10 μL elution) or 5 min (10 μL elution).

Note: For different elution volumes or incubation at 75 °C for non-denatured DNA see section 2.5 for detailed information.
# Appendix

## 6.1 Troubleshooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Possible cause and suggestions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Low DNA yield** | **Reagents not prepared properly**  
  • Add the indicated volume of 96–100 % ethanol to the Buffer B5 Concentrate and mix well before use. |
| **No increase of PCR signal despite an increased volume of eluate used as template** | **Residual ethanol in eluate**  
  • Please see the detailed description of removal of residual traces of ethanol in section 2.5. |
| **Discrepancy between $A_{260}$ quantification values and PCR quantification values** | **Silica abrasion from the membrane**  
  • Due to the typically low DNA content in very small samples and the resulting low total amount of isolated DNA, DNA quantification via $A_{260}$ absorption measurement is often hampered by the low sensitivity of this method. When performing absorption measurements close to the detection limit of the photometer, the measurement may be influenced by minor amounts of silica abrasion. In order to prevent incorrect $A_{260}$ quantification of small DNA amounts centrifuge the eluate for 30 s at $> 11,000 \times g$ and take an aliquot for measurement without disturbing any sediment. Alternatively, use a silica abrasion insensitive DNA quantification method (e.g., PicoGreen® fluorescent dye). |
| **$A_{260}/A_{280}$ ratio too high or too low** | **Measurement not in the range of photometer detection limit**  
  • In order to obtain a significant $A_{260}/A_{280}$ ratio it is necessary that the initially measured $A_{260}$ and $A_{280}$ values are significantly above the detection limit of the photometer used. An $A_{280}$ value close to the background noise of the photometer will cause unexpected $A_{260}/A_{280}$ ratios. |
6.2 Ordering information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>REF</th>
<th>Pack of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS</td>
<td>740904.10</td>
<td>10 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>740904.50</td>
<td>50 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>740904.250</td>
<td>250 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up</td>
<td>740230.10</td>
<td>10 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>740230.50</td>
<td>50 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>740230.250</td>
<td>250 preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer NT</td>
<td>740614.100</td>
<td>100 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer B5 (Concentrate) (for 100 mL Buffer B5)</td>
<td>740921</td>
<td>20 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffer BE</td>
<td>740306.100</td>
<td>100 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Tubes (2 mL)</td>
<td>740600</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit [www.mn-net.com](http://www.mn-net.com) for more detailed product information.

6.3 Product use restriction/warranty

**NucleoSpin® gDNA Clean-up XS** kit components are intended, developed, designed, and sold FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY, except, however, any other function of the product being expressly described in original MACHEREY-NAGEL product leaflets.

MACHEREY-NAGEL products are intended for GENERAL LABORATORY USE ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products are suited for QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall in any event only be used wearing adequate PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. For detailed information please refer to the respective Material Safety Data Sheet of the product! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall exclusively be used in an ADEQUATE TEST ENVIRONMENT. MACHEREY-NAGEL does not assume any responsibility for damages due to improper application of our products in other fields of application. Application on the human body is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. The respective user is liable for any and all damages resulting from such application.

DNA/RNA/PROTEIN purification products of MACHEREY-NAGEL are suitable for **IN VITRO-USES ONLY**!

ONLY MACHEREY-NAGEL products specially labeled as IVD are also suitable for **IN VITRO-diagnostic** use. Please pay attention to the package of the product. **IN VITRO**-diagnostic products are expressly marked as IVD on the packaging.

**IF THERE IS NO IVD SIGN, THE PRODUCT SHALL NOT BE SUITABLE FOR IN VITRO-DIAGNOSTIC USE!**
ALL OTHER PRODUCTS NOT LABELED AS IVD ARE NOT SUITED FOR ANY CLINICAL USE (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO DIAGNOSTIC, THERAPEUTIC AND/OR PROGNOSTIC USE).

No claim or representations is intended for its use to identify any specific organism or for clinical use (included, but not limited to diagnostic, prognostic, therapeutic, or blood banking). It is rather in the responsibility of the user or - in any case of resale of the products - in the responsibility of the reseller to inspect and assure the use of the DNA/RNA/protein purification products of MACHEREY-NAGEL for a well-defined and specific application.

MACHEREY-NAGEL shall only be responsible for the product specifications and the performance range of MN products according to the specifications of in-house quality control, product documentation and marketing material.

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PicoGreen® is a registered trademark of Molecular Probes, Inc.

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