

HOT DISCO TAQ

With 10x Combination Buffer (15 mM MgCl₂)

Concentration: 5 units/μl

Cat. No.: 257660

1000 Units



	Hot Disco Taq, 5U/μl	10x Combination Buffer, 15 mM MgCl ₂	MgCl ₂ 25 mM
ID No.	CL0.100-0022	CL1.500-0048	CL1.500-0047
Cap colour	Red	Green	Clear
Content	2 x 100 μl	2 x 1.5 ml	2 x 1.5 ml

Key Features

Hot Disco Taq is a modified form of Disco Taq. A chemical moiety is attached to the enzyme at the active site, which renders the enzyme inactive at room temperature. Thus, during setup and the first ramp of thermal cycling, the enzyme is not active and misprimed primers are not extended. Once the reaction reaches optimal activating temperature, the chemical moiety is cleaved during a 15 minutes heat activation step, releasing the active Hot Disco Taq into the reaction.

Kit Components

Hot Disco Taq in Storage Buffer

5 U/μl Hot Disco Taq, 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.9, 100 mM KCl, 0.1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 0.5% Tween® 20, 50% glycerol.

10x Combination Buffer

Tris-HCl, pH 8.7, KCl, (NH₄)₂SO₄, 15 mM MgCl₂, 1% Tween® 20.

Combination Buffer is a proprietary mixture of potassium and ammonium. It combines high specificity with good product yield due to specific primer annealing over a wide range of annealing temperatures and MgCl₂ concentrations.

MgCl₂

25 mM MgCl₂ in PCR grade water.

Recommended Storage and Stability

Long term storage at -20 °C. Product expiry at -20 °C is stated on the label.

Option: Store at +4 °C for up to 6 months.

Quality Control

Hot Disco Taq is tested for contaminating activities, with no traces of endonuclease activity, nicking activity or exonuclease activity.

Unit Definition

One unit is defined as the amount of polymerase that incorporates 10 nmol of dNTPs into acid-precipitable DNA in 30 minutes at 72 °C under standard assay conditions.

Protocol

This protocol serves as a guideline to ensure optimal PCR results when using Hot Disco Taq. Optimal reaction conditions such as incubation times, temperatures and amount of template DNA may vary and must be determined individually.

1. Thaw 10x Buffer, dNTP mix and primer solutions. **It is important to thaw the solutions completely (some buffers need to reach room temperature) and mix thoroughly before use to avoid localized concentrations of salts.** The polymerase is provided in glycerol and does not need thawing.

Important: Spin vials briefly before use.

2. Prepare a reaction mix according to table 1. The reaction mix typically contains all the components needed for primer extension except the template DNA.

Table 1. Reaction mix and template DNA

Component	Vol./reaction*	Final concentration*
10x Buffer	5 μl	1x
25 mM MgCl ₂	0 μl (0 – 6 μl)	1.5 mM (1.5 – 4.5 mM)
dNTP mix (10 mM each)	1 μl	0.2 mM of each dNTP
Primer A (10 μM)	1 μl (0.5 – 5 μl)	0.2 μM (0.1 – 1.0 μM)
Primer B (10 μM)	1 μl (0.5 – 5 μl)	0.2 μM (0.1 – 1.0 μM)
Hot Disco Taq	0.4 μl (0.2 – 1 μl)	2 units (1 – 5 units)
PCR-grade H ₂ O	X μl	-
Template DNA	X μl	genomic DNA: 50 ng (10 – 500 ng) plasmid DNA: 0.5 ng (0.1 – 1 ng) bacterial DNA: 5 ng (1 – 10 ng)
TOTAL volume	50 μl	-

* Suggested starting conditions; theoretically used conditions in brackets. The final volume can be reduced to 25 μl by using half of the volumes suggested in Vol./reaction, eg. 0.2 μl Hot Disco Taq instead of 0.4 μl Hot Disco Taq.

3. Mix the reaction mix thoroughly and dispense appropriate volumes into reaction tubes.

4. Add template DNA to the individual tubes containing the reaction mix.

5. Program the thermal cycler according to the manufacturer's instructions. **Each program must start with an initial heat activation step at 95°C for 15 minutes.**

For maximum yield and specificity, temperatures and cycling times should be optimized for each new target or primer pair.

6. Place the tubes in the thermal cycler and start the reaction.

Table 2. Three-step PCR program

Cycles	Duration of cycle	Temperature
1	15 minutes ^a	95 °C
25 – 35	20 – 30 seconds ^b 20 – 40 seconds ^c 30 seconds ^d	95 °C 50 – 65 °C 72 °C
1	5 minutes ^e	72 °C

^a. For activation of the Hot Disco Taq enzyme.

^b. Denaturation step: This step is the first regular cycling event and consists of heating the reaction to 95 °C for 20 – 30 seconds. It causes melting of the DNA template by disrupting the hydrogen bonds between complementary bases, yielding single-stranded DNA molecules.

- c. Annealing step: The reaction temperature is lowered to 50 – 65 °C for 20 – 40 seconds allowing annealing of the primers to the single-stranded DNA template. Typically, the annealing temperature is about 3 – 5 °C below the T_m (melting temperature) of the primers used.
- d. Extension/elongation step: Hot Disco Taq has its optimum activity temperature at 72 °C. At this step the DNA polymerase synthesizes a new DNA strand complementary to the DNA template strand. The extension time depends on the length of the DNA fragment to be amplified. As a rule of thumb, at its optimum temperature the DNA polymerase will polymerize a thousand bases per minute.
- e. Final elongation: This single step is occasionally performed at a temperature of 72 °C for 5 minutes after the last PCR cycle to ensure that any remaining single-stranded DNA is fully extended.

Notes:

- 15 mM $MgCl_2$ is present in 10x PCR Buffer. The 1x concentration is 1.5 mM $MgCl_2$. In some applications, more than 1.5 mM $MgCl_2$ is required for best results. For this reason, 25 mM $MgCl_2$ is included in the kit. Table 2 provides the volume of 25 mM $MgCl_2$ to be added to the master mix if a higher $MgCl_2$ concentration is required.

Table 3. Additional volume (μ l) of $MgCl_2$ per 50 μ l reaction

Final $MgCl_2$ conc. in reaction (mM)	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5
Volume of 25 mM $MgCl_2$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

- For longer DNA targets more DNA polymerase could be added to the PCR master mix.

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