**One Taq® Quick-Load 2X Master Mix with GC Buffer**

100 reactions (50 µl vol) Lot: 0071209
RECOMBINANT Store at −20°C Exp: 9/13

**Description:** One Taq Quick-Load 2X Master Mix with GC Buffer is an optimized, ready-to-use blend of Taq and Deep Vent™ DNA Polymerases ideally suited to PCR applications from GC-rich templates, including pure DNA solutions, bacterial colonies and cDNA products. The 3′ → 5′ exonuclease activity of Deep Vent DNA Polymerase increases the fidelity and robust amplification of Taq DNA Polymerase (1). The convenient quick-load master mix formulation contains dNTPs, MgSO₄, buffer components and stabilizers as well as two commonly used tracking dyes for DNA gels. On a 1% agarose gel, the ~6 kb genomic marker M is the 1 kb DNA Ladder (NEB #N3232).

**Sources:** An E. coli strain that carries the Taq DNA Polymerase gene from Thermus aquaticus YT-1 and an E. coli strain that carries the Deep Vent™ DNA Polymerase gene from Pyrococcus species GB-D.

**Applications:**
- GC-rich PCR
- High Sensitivity PCR
- High Throughput PCR
- Colony PCR
- Long PCR (up to ~6 kb genomic)

**Reagents Supplied with Enzyme:**
- One Taq High GC Enhancer

**Reaction Conditions:** 1X One Taq Quick-Load Master Mix with GC Buffer, DNA template and primers in a total reaction volume of 50 µl.

**One Taq High GC Enhancer:**
10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 9.2 @ 25°C)
25% DMSO
25% Glycerol

**Unit Definition:** One unit is defined as the amount of enzyme that will incorporate 15 nmol of dNTP into acid insoluble material in 30 minutes at 75°C.

**Unit Assay Conditions:** 1X ThermoPol™ Reaction Buffer, 200 µM dNTPs including [1H]-dTTP and 200 µg/ml activated Calf Thymus DNA.

**Heat Inactivation:** No

**Quality Control Assays**

**Buffer-dependent GC-rich (> 65% GC) PCR:**
30 cycles of PCR amplification of 10 ng of human genomic DNA with 1X One Taq Quick-Load Master Mix with GC Buffer in a 25 µl reaction in the presence of 0.2 µM primers resulted in the buffer-dependent production of the 737 bp GC-rich product.

**Enhancer-dependent High GC (> 70% GC) PCR:**
30 cycles of PCR amplification of 10 ng of human genomic DNA with 1X One Taq Quick-Load Master Mix with GC Buffer in a 25 µl reaction in the presence of 0.2 µM primers and 20% One Taq High GC Enhancer resulted in the enhancer-dependent production of the 627 bp high GC product.

**Note:** Product specifications for individual components in the One Taq Quick-Load 2X Master Mix with GC Buffer are available separately.

**PCR**

The Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is a powerful and sensitive technique for DNA amplification (2). Taq DNA Polymerase is an enzyme widely used in PCR (3). The following guidelines are provided to ensure successful PCR using New England Biolabs’ One Taq Quick-Load 2X Master Mix with GC Buffer. These guidelines cover routine PCR reactions. Specialized applications may require further optimization.

**Reaction Setup:**
We recommend assembling all reaction components on ice and quickly transferring the reactions to a thermocycler preheated to the denaturation temperature (94°C).

**General Guidelines:**

1. **Template:**
   - Use of high quality, purified DNA templates greatly enhances the success of PCR reactions. Recommended amounts of DNA template for a 50 µl reaction are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DNA</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genomic</td>
<td>1 ng–1 µg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasmid or Viral</td>
<td>1 pg–1 ng</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Primers:**
   - Oligonucleotide primers are generally 20–40 nucleotides in length and ideally have a GC content of 40–60%. Computer programs such as Primer3 (http://frodo.wi.mit.edu/primer3) can be used to design or analyze primers. The final concentration of each primer in a PCR reaction may be 0.05–1 µM, typically 0.2 µM.

3. **Mg++ and Additives:**
   - Mg++ concentration of 1.5–2.0 mM is optimal for most PCR products generated with One Taq DNA Polymerase. The final Mg++ concentration in 1X One Taq Quick-Load Master Mix with GC Buffer is 2 mM. This supports satisfactory amplification of most amplicons. However, Mg++ can be further optimized in 0.2 mM increments using MgSO₄ (sold separately).
   - Amplification of extremely difficult targets may be improved by the addition of 10–20% One Taq High GC Enhancer (included).

**Thermocycling Conditions for a Routine PCR:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP</th>
<th>TEMP</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Denaturation</td>
<td>94°C</td>
<td>30 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Cycles</td>
<td>45–68°C</td>
<td>15–30 seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Cycles</td>
<td>68°C</td>
<td>1 minute/kb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Extension</td>
<td>68°C</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hold</td>
<td>4–10°C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- For extremely difficult or high GC amplicons, the addition of 10–20% One Taq High GC Enhancer may improve amplification.
- Transfer PCR tubes to a PCR machine and begin thermocycling.

*For extremely difficult or high GC amplicons, the addition of 10–20% One Taq High GC Enhancer may improve amplification.

**Notes:** Gently mix the reaction. Collect all liquid to the bottom of the tube by a quick spin if necessary. Overlay the sample with mineral oil if using a PCR machine without a heated lid.
4. Denaturation:
An initial denaturation of 30 seconds at 94°C is sufficient to amplify most targets from pure DNA templates. For difficult templates, a longer denaturation of 2–4 minutes at 94°C is recommended prior to PCR cycling to fully denature the template. With colony PCR, an initial 2–5 minute denaturation at 94°C is recommended.

During thermocycling a 15–30 second denaturation at 94°C is recommended.

5. Annealing:
The annealing step is typically 15–60 seconds. Annealing temperature is based on the T_m of the primer pair and is typically 45–68°C. Annealing temperatures can be optimized by doing a temperature gradient PCR starting 5°C below the calculated T_m. We recommend using NEB’s T_m Calculator, available at www.neb.com/TmCalculator to determine appropriate annealing temperatures for PCR.

6. Extension:
The recommended extension temperature is 68°C. Extension times are generally 1 minute per kb. A final extension of 5 minutes at 68°C is recommended.

7. Cycle Number:
Generally, 25–35 cycles yields sufficient product. Up to 45 cycles may be required to detect low copy number targets.

8. 2-step PCR:
When primers with annealing temperatures of 68°C or above are used, a 2-step thermocycling protocol (combining annealing and extension into one step) is possible.

9. PCR Product:
The majority of the PCR products generated using One Taq DNA Polymerase contain dA overhangs at the 3’ end; therefore the PCR products can be ligated to dT/dU-overhang vectors.