

# Zooplankton gDNA Extraction in Microcentrifuge Tubes

RS18-0243A.ZOP

## Materials

- [Red or PC1 Bead Lysis Kit](#)
- [FoamBlocker](#)
- [MAGneat Tissue DNA Extraction Kit](#)

## Supplied in the Kit:

MAGneat Tissue RNA Lysis Kit Contents	
Lysis Buffer	27.5 mL
Binding Buffer	7.3 mL
MAGneat Magnetic Beads	1.65 mL
Wash Buffer 1	15 mL
Proteinase K	22 mg
RNase A	2.75 mg
DNA Elution Buffer	5.5 mL

## Methods

### Buffer Preparation

- ✓ Lysis Buffer: Ready to use.
- \_\_\_ Binding Buffer: Add 17 mL isopropyl alcohol to the DNA Binding Buffer bottle.
- \_\_\_ Wash Buffer 1: Add 22.5 mL of 100% ethanol to the Wash Buffer 1 bottle.
- \_\_\_ Wash Buffer 2 (75% ethanol): 3 parts of 100% ethanol to 1-part of molecular grade water, prepare fresh each day, producing 1.4 mL per sample with 10% excess.
- ✓ DNA Elution Buffer: Ready to use.

### Enzyme Reconstitution

#### Proteinase K:

- \_\_\_ Bring proteinase K vial to room temperature.
- \_\_\_ Remove stopper and add 1.1 mL of molecular grade water to the proteinase K vial.
- \_\_\_ Replace stopper and incubate at room temperature for 15 minutes, mixing well by inversion.
- \_\_\_ Aliquot into required volumes and store at -20°C. Avoid multiple freeze thaw cycles

#### RNase A:

## Sample

- Zooplankton (Whole)



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## To Be Supplied by User:

- Phosphate-Buffered Saline
- 100% Ethanol
- 100% Isopropyl Alcohol
- Molecular Grade Water
- Magnetic Tube Rack, e.g. Magnetic Rack Assembly ([MAGRACK8](#)) shown in Appendix A.

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- Bring RNase vial to room temperature.
- Remove stopper and add 500  $\mu$ L of molecular grade water to the RNase vial.
- Replace stopper and incubate at room temperature for 15 minutes, mixing well by inversion.
- Aliquot into required volumes and store at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Avoid multiple freeze thaw cycles.

**Note:** Ensure that all solutions are at room temperature prior to use.

## Homogenization

1. Add 500  $\mu$ L of Lysis Buffer, 20  $\mu$ L of proteinase K, and 10  $\mu$ L of FoamBlocker into each lysis kit tube.
2. Weigh up to 50 mg of small organism samples and transfer to the buffer-filled tubes. **Note:** *Cut into small pieces – larger tissue size may affect complete homogenization with the recommended homogenization setting.*
3. Set the [Bullet Blender](#) at speed 6, time 2 minutes and homogenize the samples. If using other homogenizer models, refer to the manufacturer's instructions for settings.
4. Remove the tubes and visually inspect the samples to confirm complete homogenization (Figure 1). **Note:** *If unhomogenized tissue is seen, homogenize for additional 30 seconds.*



**Figure 1:** A sample after complete homogenization without any sample chunks.



**Figure 2:** Magnetic beads separate to the back wall of the tubes, when placed in the magnetic rack.



**Figure 3:** Using pipette tips, carefully remove the supernatant. If needed, hold the tube to prevent the tube from moving/spinning.

## Extraction

### RNase Treatment & Binding:

1. Prepare fresh microtubes in the tube rack with 200  $\mu$ L of PBS.
2. Transfer 320  $\mu$ L of the homogenate to the new tubes containing PBS.
3. Add 5  $\mu$ L of RNase A to each sample and slide the tube rack onto the mixing base. Mix well by inversion and leave at room temperature for 10 minutes, mixing again halfway through the incubation.
4. Centrifuge tubes at  $13,000 \times g$  for 5 minutes.
5. Transfer 450  $\mu$ L of supernatant into new microfuge tubes, being careful not to disturb the pellets or transfer any debris.
6. Add 450  $\mu$ L (or volume equal to the transferred supernatant from step 5) of Binding Buffer to the supernatant in each tube. Slide the tube rack onto the mixing base and inverse to mix the buffer with the homogenate.
7. Vortex the MAGneat beads thoroughly making sure that there are no clumps in the tube.
8. Slide the tube rack off the mixing base and add 30  $\mu$ L of the beads to each sample tube. Mix

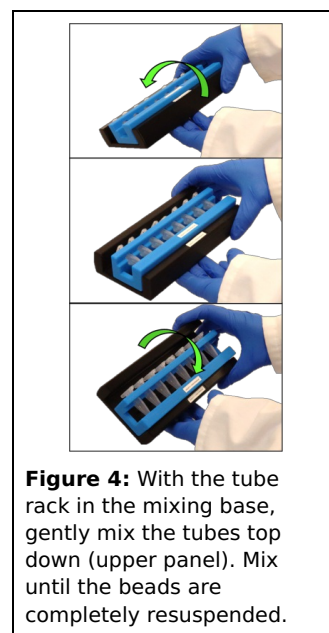
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tubes by inversion to resuspend the magnetic beads. Allow to stand for 5 minutes, mixing again halfway through.

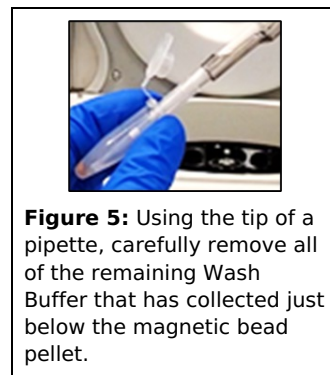
- Slide the tube rack onto the magnetic stand and allow to sit for 1-2 minutes, until the magnetic beads separate from the homogenate (Figure 2).
- Using a pipette, discard the supernatant without disturbing the beads (Figure 3). Remove the tube rack from the magnetic stand.

### Washing:

- Add 700  $\mu$ L of Wash Buffer 1 to the tubes and then place the tube rack in the mixing base. Mix thoroughly by inversion, ensuring all beads have been detached from the tube walls and evenly resuspended (Figure 4).
- Remove the tube rack from the mixing base and place it on the magnetic stand. Allow the magnetic beads to separate.
- Using a pipette, discard the supernatant. **Note:** *Be careful not to disturb the magnetic beads.*
- Remove the tube rack from the magnetic stand. Add 700  $\mu$ L of Wash Buffer 2, mix thoroughly by inversion to completely resuspend the beads.
- Transfer the tube rack to the magnetic stand and allow the magnetic beads to separate.
- Discard the supernatant. **Note:** *Be careful not to disturb the magnetic beads.*
- Repeat steps 4-6 for a total of 2 washes with Wash Buffer 2.
- Centrifuge samples at 2,000  $\times$  g for 3 minutes to collect the remaining Wash Buffer. Place the tubes on the tube rack.
- Use a 20  $\mu$ L pipette to remove the remaining Wash Buffer from the tubes (Figure 5).
- Leave tube caps open to air dry the magnetic beads at room temperature for 5 minutes. **Note:** *Confirm that there is no ethanol present before proceeding to elution steps.*



**Figure 4:** With the tube rack in the mixing base, gently mix the tubes top down (upper panel). Mix until the beads are completely resuspended.



**Figure 5:** Using the tip of a pipette, carefully remove all of the remaining Wash Buffer that has collected just below the magnetic bead pellet.

### Elution:

- Add 100  $\mu$ L of DNA Elution Buffer to each tube. Mix by tapping to ensure that the magnetic beads are completely resuspended.
- Incubate at 60°C for 5 minutes with caps closed.
- After incubation, place the tube rack back onto the magnetic stand to allow the beads to separate.
- Transfer the clear supernatant containing the gDNA into new, labeled microfuge tubes for downstream processing. Be careful not to transfer any magnetic beads. **Note:** *If magnetic*

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*beads were transferred, place the sample back on the magnetic stand to separate the beads.*

5. Analyze quality ( $OD_{260}/OD_{280}$ ) and yield using a NanoDrop™ or other spectrophotometer and agarose gel.
6. Isolated DNA can be stored at 4°C for up to a week or at -20°C for long term storage.

# Magnetic Rack Assembly

## Using the [Magnetic Rack Assembly](#)

### Tube Rack:

Basic rack that holds up to eight 1.5 mL or 2 mL tubes during every step of procedure. No assembly required.



### Magnetic Stand:

Contains a magnet. Place the tube rack onto the magnetic stand for the bead separation steps.



### Mixing Base:

Has an overhang to retain tubes in the tube rack during rocking or inversion mixing. Place the tube rack into the mixing base during incubation, binding, and washing steps.

