

# Exonuclease I, E. coli

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Exonuclease I, E. coli

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#### 1. Introduction

Exonuclease I (Exo I), the product of the sbcB gene of *E. coli*, is an exodeoxyribonuclease that hydrolyses single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) stepwise in a  $3' \rightarrow 5'$  direction.<sup>1-3</sup> Hydrolysis generates deoxyribonucleoside 5' monophosphates and a terminal dinucleotide diphosphate.<sup>1</sup> The enzyme requires magnesium (optimal Mg<sup>2+</sup> concentration is 10 mM) and the presence of a free 3'-hydroxyl terminus.<sup>1</sup> Exo I is active under a wide variety of buffer conditions, allowing addition of the enzyme directly into most reaction mixes. Heat inactivation results from incubation at 80 °C for 15 minutes.

#### 2. Product designations and kit components

Product	Kit size	Catalog number	Reagent description	Part number	Volume
Exonuclease I, <i>E. coli</i>	20,000 Units	X40520K	Exonuclease I (20 Units/µL)	E0027-20D1	1 mL

#### 3. Product specifications

Storage: Store only at -20 °C in a freezer without a defrost cycle.

Storage buffer: Exo I is supplied in a 50% glycerol solution containing 50 mM Tris-HCI (pH 7.5),

100 mM NaCl, 1.0 mM dithiothreitol, 0.1 mM EDTA and 0.1% Triton® X-100 (Rohm & Haas).

**Unit definition:** One unit of Exo I results in the acid-solubilisation of 10 nmol of nucleotides from calf thymus DNA in 30 minutes at 37 °C.

**Quality control:** Exo I is function-tested in a reaction containing 33 mM Tris-acetate (pH 7.5), 66 mM potassium acetate, 10 mM magnesium acetate, 0.5 mM dithiothreitol, 10 µg of denatured calf thymus DNA and varying amounts of Exo I.

**Contaminating activity assays:** Exo I is free of detectable RNase, endonuclease and doublestranded exonuclease activities.

### 4. Applications

**Removal of residual ssDNA and oligonucleotides from reaction mixes.** Linear ssDNA and oligonucleotides can be selectively degraded from heterogeneous mixtures of nucleic acids in reaction mixes.

Clean-up of PCR. Unused amplification primers can be removed after PCR using Exo I.

**Removal of ssDNA from nucleic acid mixtures.** Linear ssDNA can be selectively degraded from heterogeneous mixtures of nucleic acids with Exo I.

**Assay for regions of ssDNA.**<sup>4,5</sup> Use Exo I to assay for the presence of ssDNA containing a free 3'-hydroxyl end. This technique was used to characterise the endonuclease and helicase activities of purified *recBC* protein on circular fd phage DNA and duplex phage T7 DNA respectively.

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#### 5. References

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#### 6. Further support

If you require any further support, please do not hesitate to contact our Technical Support Team: <u>techsupport@lgcgroup.com</u>





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