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Colony PCR

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working



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Abstract

Rapidly screen transformed colonies by PCR to determine whether they successfully contain the target DNA fragment.

Materials

(I) Colony Source

- Single colony grown 16–18 hr on an LB agar plate containing the appropriate antibiotic

(II) PCR Reagents

- Forward and reverse primers
- 10× Taq polymerase buffer
- ddH₂O
- Taq DNA polymerase
- 10 mM dNTPs

(III) Instruments / Equipment

- Thermal cycler (PCR machine)
- PCR tubes (0.2 mL)
- Microcentrifuge tubes
- Micropipettes (pipetman)
- Microcentrifuge
- Vortex mixer (or shaker)

Colony Picking and Template Preparation

- 1 Select colonies from the agar plate. Inoculate a portion of each colony into LB medium containing the appropriate antibiotic and incubate at 37 °C. Place the remaining portion of the colony into a correspondingly numbered PCR tube containing 25 µL of reaction mix (see below), and pipette to fully resuspend the bacteria.

PCR Reaction Setup (20 µL per reaction)

- 2 Prepare the PCR reaction mix before starting Step 1 and keep the mix on ice

10 mM dNTPs	0.5 µl
Forward primer (10 µM)	0.5 µl
Reverse primer (10 µM)	0.5 µl
10X Standard Taq Reaction Buffer	2.5 µl
Taq DNA Polymerase	0.125 µl
ddH ₂ O	to 25 µl
total	25

- 3 Gently mix the reaction components, then briefly centrifuge the tubes to collect the contents at the bottom.
- 4 Place the PCR tubes into the thermal cycler and run the following program:



Step	Temperature	Time
Initial Denaturation	95°C	30 seconds
25-30 Cycles	95°C	15-30 seconds
	45-68°C*	15-60 seconds
	68°C	1 minute/kb
Final Extension	68°C	5 minutes
Hold	4-10°C	