

Jan 06, 2020

# Deep Cleaning Bacteria Incubator

DOI

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.ba2tigen](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.ba2tigen)



Kenneth Schackart<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Arizona

Yoon Lab



Kenneth Schackart  
University of Arizona

OPEN  ACCESS



DOI: [dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.ba2tigen](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.ba2tigen)

External link: [https://www.marshallscientific.com//v/vspfiles/files/manuals/Fisher\\_Scientific\\_Isotemp600\\_Oven-manual.pdf](https://www.marshallscientific.com//v/vspfiles/files/manuals/Fisher_Scientific_Isotemp600_Oven-manual.pdf)

**Protocol Citation:** Kenneth Schackart 2020. Deep Cleaning Bacteria Incubator. **protocols.io**  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.ba2tigen>

**License:** This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the **Creative Commons Attribution License**, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

**Protocol status:** Working

**We use this protocol and it's working**

**Created:** January 06, 2020

**Last Modified:** January 06, 2020

**Protocol Integer ID:** 31539



## Abstract

This protocol details how to deep-clean the bacteria incubator (Fisher Scientific Isotemp 637F). This cleaning should be performed at least every 4 months during regular usage, more frequently under heavy usage. Full Owner's Manual is attached to this protocol as a link (I do not claim any credit in the development of that document; it is for reference only)

## Guidelines

Gloves must be worn at all times.

Do not use bleach on stainless steel.

## Materials

- VersaClean Laboratory Cleaner solution (Concentration of 30:1 in warm water)
- 70% Ethanol Solution (EtOH)
- Sponge
- Screwdriver
- Waste beaker

## Safety warnings

❗ Do not turn incubator back on or close door until the interior is completely dry -- 24 hours.

## Disassemble

- 1 Before beginning any work on the incubator, turn off the power using the switch at the bottom.
- 2 Remove incubator door:
  - Loosen the screws on the inside of the hinges (hold the door so it doesn't fall when released).
  - Slide door out of the hinges by pulling outward.
  - The hinge on the top will fall out when the door is removed, or come off with the door.
  - Each hinge has a small plastic bushing the goes between the hinge and the incubator; do not lose these bushings.
  - Set aside for now on lab bench.



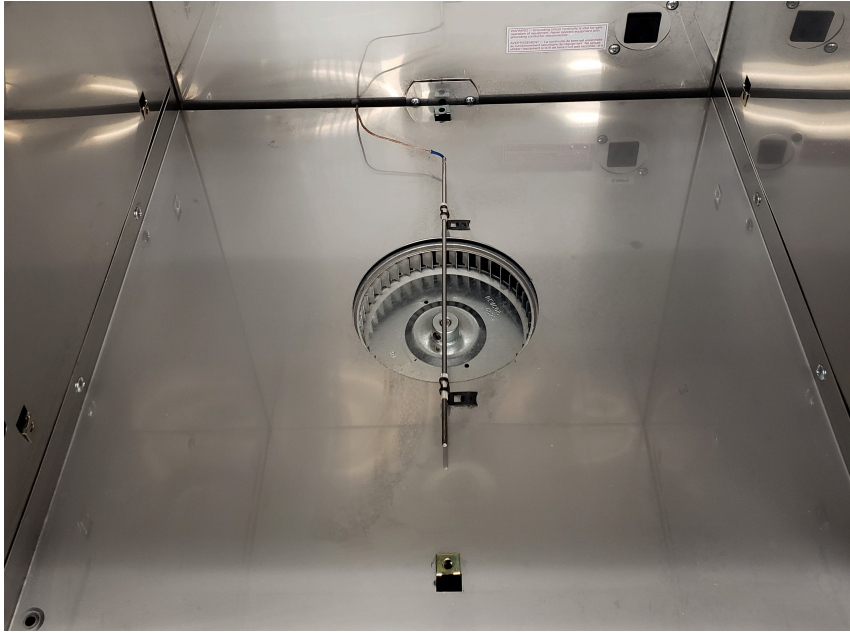
You can see the white bushing directly on top of the right of the hinge.

- 3 Remove rack shelving by pulling straight outward. Set aside for now on lab bench.
- 4 Remove the shelf holders:
  - Make note of the placement of each shelf at this time.
  - Each horizontal shelf holder can be removed by lifting up, rotating the bottom up/out, then sliding the top downward and out.

- Set aside for now on lab bench.



- 5 Remove vertical mounts:
  - Make note of the orientation of the mounts at this time.
  - Remove the screws holding the mount in place; 2 screws per mount.
  - Set aside for now on lab bench.
- 6 Remove the bottom tray:
  - Undo the 2 screws holding the tray in place.
  - Lift the tray straight up to remove (this may be assisted by inserting a small curved metal pick into the holes to help lift the back end up).
  - Set aside for now on lab bench.



## Wash

- 7 Using a sponge, wash all interior surfaces of the incubator with VersaClean solution (or other laboratory cleaner - do not use bleach on stainless steel).
  - My recommendation is to dip the sponge in cleaner, and scrub one surface (e.g. the top) with VersaClean, then wring sponge into a waste container and rewipe surface. This should leave the surfaces only slightly damp, not wet.
  - Work from the top-down: top, sides, then bottom last.
  - Avoid the mechanical moving parts on the bottom, or be cautious in washing them.
- 8 Spray all interior surfaces with EtOH and wipe with paper towels, but avoid directly spraying the mechanical moving parts on the bottom.
- 9 Using a sponge with VersaClean, wash the door and all interior parts including the rack mounts, racks, and shelf holders. Spray with EtOH to disinfect just prior to reinstalling.

## Reassemble

- 10 Reassemble the incubator by reversing the disassembly instructions.
- 11 Allow the incubator to completely dry before closing door or powering on, especially since ethanol vapor is flammable!

