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## Paraformaldehyde (4%)

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working



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## Abstract

4% PFA

## Materials

Scale

Weigh boat

1L beaker

PBS

Paraformaldehyde powder

Sodium Hydroxide (NaOH)

Coffee filters

Funnel

Hot plate

Stir bar

Thermometer

1L bottle

## Safety warnings

 Do not inhale PFA powder, all mixing and weighing should take place under the fume hood



## Directions

- 1 Add 800mL of PBS to your 1L beaker and place beaker on hot plate under the fume hood. Add a stir bar and heat while stirring up to 60°C.
- 2 Weigh out 40g of paraformaldehyde powder and add it to the beaker. The mixture will be very cloudy and will not clear right away.
- 3 Gradually raise the pH of the solution by adding drops of NaOH from a pipette until the solution clears. Once the solution is clear and paraformaldehyde has been dissolved, leave the solution to cool.
- 4 Once cooled, filter the solution through the coffee filter into your 1L bottle using a funnel.
- 5 Adjust the volume of the bottle up to 1L by adding PBS.
- 6 Store and refrigerate up to one month.