

# Alpha-Select Chemically Competent Cells

Shipping: On Dry Ice	Catalog numbers	
Batch No.: See Box	BIO-85027 $\geq 10^9$ cfu/ $\mu$ g of pUC19	- Gold
	BIO-85026 $\geq 10^8$ cfu/ $\mu$ g of pUC19	- Silver
	BIO-85046 $\geq 10^8$ cfu/ $\mu$ g of pUC19	- Silver
	BIO-85025 $\geq 10^7$ cfu/ $\mu$ g of pUC19	- Bronze



A Meridian Life Science® Company

Store at **-80 °C**

## Storage and stability

$\alpha$ -Select Chemically Competent Cells are shipped on dry ice and stored at  $-80$  °C.

## Expiry

When stored under the recommended conditions and handled correctly, full activity of the cells is retained until the expiry date on the outer box label.

## Product Specifications:

Efficiency	Pack Size	Control Vector
Gold	1 mL (20 x 50 $\mu$ L)	pUC19 (10 pg/ $\mu$ L)
Silver	2 mL (10 x 200 $\mu$ L)	pUC19 (10 pg/ $\mu$ L)
	1 mL (20 x 50 $\mu$ L)	pUC19 (10 pg/ $\mu$ L)
Bronze	2 mL (10 x 200 $\mu$ L)	pUC19 (10 pg/ $\mu$ L)

## Genotype

F<sup>-</sup> deoR endA1 recA1 relA1 gyrA96 hsdR17( $r_k^-$ ,  $m_k^+$ ) supE44 thi-1 phoA  $\Delta$ (lacZYA argF)U169  $\Phi$ 80lacZ $\Delta$ M15 $\lambda$

## Safety precautions

This product is for R&D use only, not for human use, or any other use. Please refer to the material safety data sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling practices.

## Notes

Manufactured under ISO 13485 quality standards. Research use only

## Features

- Chemically Competent
- Variety of efficiencies:  $\geq 10^7$ ,  $\geq 10^8$ , or  $\geq 10^9$  cfu/ $\mu$ g of pUC19
- Accommodates larger plasmids

## Applications

- Transformation of cloned DNA into bacterial cells
- Ideal for generating cDNA libraries
- Blue/white color screening

## Description

$\alpha$ -Select Competent Cells contain a *lacZ* marker that provides  $\alpha$ -complementation of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase gene for blue/white color screening. The cells are ideal for generating cDNA libraries.

$\alpha$ -Select Competent Cells also provide *recA1* and *endA1* markers to minimize recombination and enhance the quality of the plasmid DNA. pUC19 DNA is also provided as a positive control.

### Suggested Transformation Procedure for Optimal Results:

1. Remove cells from  $-80$  °C and leave to thaw wet ice\*.
2. If using BIO-85027, Transformation reactions can be performed in the same tubes in which competent cells are supplied. If using BIO-85025 or BIO-85026, thaw as many tubes as required, mix cells by very gently flicking, gently transfer 50  $\mu$ L of cells into required number of chilled, sterile 1.5 mL tubes.  
*\*Refreezing the unused cells is not recommend. If necessary, re-freeze cells on dry ice/ethanol bath prior to storage  $-80$  °C. A drop in efficiency may result after refreezing.*
3. Add DNA solution (= 5  $\mu$ L per 50  $\mu$ L cells) to cell suspension and gently swirl tube(s) for a few seconds to mix. If a control is desired, repeat this step with 2  $\mu$ L of the provided Control Vector (pUC19) in a separate tube.
4. Incubate on ice for 30 minutes.
5. Place tube(s) in 42 °C water bath for ~30 to 45 seconds without shaking. For 50  $\mu$ L aliquots, 40 seconds is recommended for maximum efficiency/
6. Replace tube(s) on ice for ~2 minutes.
7. Dilute transformation reaction(s) to 1 mL by addition of 900-950  $\mu$ L SOC (SOC Medium: 2% Tryptone, 0.5% Yeast Extract, 0.4% glucose, 10 mM NaCl, 2.5 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> & 10 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>).
8. Shake tube(s) ~250 rpm for 60 minutes at 37 °C.
9. Plate by spreading 5-200  $\mu$ L of cell transformation mixture on LB agar plates containing appropriate antibiotic and incubate overnight at 37°C.

#### Note:

When performing the pUC19 control transformation, plate 5  $\mu$ L of the transformation mixture on a LB agar plate containing 100  $\mu$ g/mL ampicillin. To facilitate cell spreading, place a pool of SOC (100  $\mu$ L) onto the surface of the plate prior to the addition of transformation mixture.

### Transformation Efficiency Calculation for Control Vector

For example:

$$\text{Transformation Efficiency (cfu/\mu g pUC19 DNA)} = \frac{\# \text{ colonies (colony forming units)}}{\text{pg pUC19 transformed}} \times \frac{10^6 \text{ pg}}{\mu\text{g}} \times \frac{\text{Final volume (\mu L) of transformation mix}}{\text{Volume plated (\mu L)}}$$

#### For example:

If 40 colonies were obtained after transforming 20 pg of pUC19 and plating 5  $\mu$ L of the final 1 mL transformation mixture, the calculated transformation efficiency would be:

$$\frac{40 \text{ cfu}}{20 \text{ pg pUC19}} \times \frac{10^6 \text{ pg}}{\mu\text{g}} \times \frac{1000 \mu\text{L}}{5 \mu\text{L}} = 4 \times 10^8 \text{ cfu/\mu g pUC19}$$

### Associated Products:

Product Name	Pack Size	Cat No
Quick-Stick Ligase	50 Reactions	BIO-27027
IPTG	5 g	BIO-37036
X-GAL	1 g	BIO-37035

### Product Citations:

1. Zane, G. M., *et al. Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* **76(16)**, 5500-09 (2010).
2. Hornsey, M., *et al. J. Antimicrob. Chemother.* **65 (8)**, 1589-1593 (2010).
3. Broeham, G., *et al. Insect Biochem. Mol. Biol.* **40(3)**, 274-283 (2010).
4. Goldfinch, N., *et al. Vet. Res.* **41(5)**, 62 (2010).
5. Thaler, A. D., *et al. Conservation Gene. Res.* DOI: 10.1007/s12686-010-9174-9 (2010).
6. Allerston, C.K., *et al. Mol. Gene. Metab.* **98(1-2)**, 198-202 (2009).

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