

USER GUIDE

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by *life* technologies™

# pcDNA™3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C

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## Kit Contents and Storage

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### Shipping and Storage

pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His vectors are shipped at room temperature. Upon receipt, store vectors at -20°C.

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### Kit Contents

20 µg each of pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C are supplied at 0.5 µg/µL in 10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0 in a total volume of 40 µL.

20 µg of pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ* is supplied at 0.5 µg/µL in 10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0 in a total volume of 40 µL.

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**For research use only. Not intended for any human or animal therapeutic or diagnostic use.**

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# Introduction

## Product Overview

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### Description of the System

pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C are 5.5 kb vectors designed for overproduction of recombinant proteins in mammalian cell lines. The vectors are supplied in three reading frames to facilitate in frame cloning, with a C-terminal peptide containing a polyhistidine metal-binding tag and the *myc* (*c-myc*) epitope. The human cytomegalovirus immediate-early (CMV) promoter provides high-level expression in a wide range of mammalian cells. In addition, the vector will replicate episomally in cell lines that are latently infected with SV40 or that express the SV40 large T antigen (e.g. COS7). High-level stable and non-replicative transient expression can be carried out in most mammalian cells. The control plasmid, pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ*, is the pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) A vector with a 3.2 kb fragment containing the  $\beta$ -galactosidase gene cloned in frame with the C-terminal peptide (see page 9). It is included for use as a positive control for transfection, expression, and detection in the cell line of choice.

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### Experimental Outline

Use the following outline to clone and express your gene of interest in pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-).

1. Consult the multiple cloning sites described on pages 3–5 to determine which vector (A, B, or C) should be used to clone your gene in frame with the C-terminal *myc* epitope and the polyhistidine tag.
  2. Ligate your insert into the appropriate vector and transform into *E. coli*. Select transformants on 50–100  $\mu$ g/mL ampicillin.
  3. Analyze your transformants for the presence of insert by restriction digestion.
  4. Select a transformant with the correct restriction pattern and use sequencing to confirm that your gene is cloned in frame with the C-terminal peptide.
  5. Transfect your construct into the cell line of choice using your own method of transfection. Generate a stable cell line, if desired.
  6. Test for expression of your recombinant gene by western blot analysis or functional assay. If you do not have an antibody to your protein, you may use the Anti-*myc* Antibody or the Anti-His (C-term) Antibody to detect your recombinant protein (see page 11 for ordering).
  7. To purify your recombinant protein, you may use metal-chelating resin such as ProBond<sup>™</sup>. ProBond<sup>™</sup> resin is available separately (see page 11 for ordering).
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## Methods

### Cloning into pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C

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#### General Molecular Biology Techniques

For help with DNA ligations, *E. coli* transformations, restriction enzyme analysis, purification of single-stranded DNA, DNA sequencing, and DNA biochemistry, refer to *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989) or *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (Ausubel *et al.*, 1994).

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#### *E. coli* Strain

Many *E. coli* strains are suitable for the growth of this vector including TOP10F'. We recommend that you propagate vectors containing inserts in *E. coli* strains that are recombination deficient (*recA*) and endonuclease A-deficient (*endA*). For your convenience, TOP10F' is available as chemically competent or electrocompetent cells for purchase (see page 11 for ordering).

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#### Maintenance of pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-)

To propagate and maintain the pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) vectors, use the supplied stock solution in TE, pH 8.0 to transform a *recA*, *endA* *E. coli* strain like TOP10, TOP10F', DH5 $\alpha$ <sup>™</sup>, JM109, or equivalent. Select transformants on LB plates containing 50–100  $\mu$ g/mL ampicillin. Be sure to prepare a glycerol stock of your plasmid.

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#### Cloning Considerations

Your insert should contain a Kozak translation initiation sequence for proper initiation of translation (Kozak, 1987; Kozak, 1990). An example of a Kozak consensus sequence is provided below. Note that other sequences are possible, but the G or A at position –3 and the G at position +4 are the most critical nucleotides for function (shown in bold). The ATG initiation codon is shown underlined.

(G/A)NNATGG

To express your gene as a recombinant fusion protein, you must clone your gene in frame with the C-terminal peptide. The vector is supplied in three reading frames to facilitate cloning. See pages 3–5 to develop a cloning strategy.

If you wish to express your protein **without** the C-terminal peptide, be sure to include a stop codon.

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# Cloning into pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C, Continued

## Multiple Cloning Site of Version A

Below is the multiple cloning site for pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A. Restriction sites are labeled to indicate the cleavage site. The boxed nucleotides indicate the variable region. **Note that there is a stop codon after the *Xba* I site.** The multiple cloning site has been confirmed by sequencing and functional testing. The vector sequence of pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A is available for downloading from [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support) or from Technical Support (see page 12).

```

741 AAATGTCGTA ACAACTCCGC CCCATTGACG CAAATGGGCG GTAGGCGTGT ACGGTGGGAG
      CAAT
      putative transcriptional start
801 GTCTATATAA GCAGAGCTCT CTGGCTAACT AGAGAACCCA CTGCTTACTG GCTTATCGAA
      T7 promoter/priming site
861 ATTAATACGA CTCACTATAG GGAGACCCAA GCTGG CTA GCG TTT AAA CGG GCC CTC
      Leu Ala Phe Lys Arg Ala Leu
      Xho I Not I BstX I* EcoR V EcoR I BstX I*
917 TAG ACT CGA GCG GCC GCC ACT GTG CTG GAT ATC TGC AGA ATT CCA CCA CAC
      *** Thr Arg Ala Ala Ala Thr Val Leu Asp Ile Cys Arg Ile Pro Pro His
      BamH I Asp718 I Kpn I Hind III Apa I* myc epitope
968 TGG ACT AGT GGA TCC GAG CTC GGT ACC AAG CTT GGG CCC GAA CAA AAA CTC
      Trp Thr Ser Gly Ser Glu Leu Gly Thr Lys Leu Gly Pro Glu Gln Lys Leu
      Polyhistidine tag
1019 ATC TCA GAA GAG GAT CTG AAT AGC GCC GTC GAC CAT CAT CAT CAT CAT CAT
      Ile Ser Glu Glu Asp Leu Asn Ser Ala Val Asp His His His His His His
      Afl II BGH Reverse priming site
1070 TGA GTTTAAACGG TCTCCAGCTT AAGTTTAAAC CGCTGATCAG CCTCGACTGT GCCTTCTA
      ***

```

\*Note that there are two *BstX* I sites and two *Apa* I sites in the polylinker.

Continued on next page





# Cloning into pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C, Continued

## Multiple Cloning Site of Version C

Below is the multiple cloning site for pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) C. Restriction sites are labeled to indicate the cleavage site. The boxed nucleotides indicate the variable region. **Note that there are two stop codons. One is located between the *Nhe* I site and the *Apa* I site, and the other is located before the *Bam*H I site.** This means the 3' cloning site must be either *Bam*H I, *Kpn* I (*Asp*718 I), or *Hind* III if you wish to clone your gene into pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) C so that it is expressed without interruption. The multiple cloning site has been confirmed by sequencing and functional testing. The vector sequence of pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) C is available for downloading from [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support) or from Technical Support (see page 12).

```

741 AAATGTCGTA ACAACTCCGC CCCATTGACG CAAATGGGCG GTAGGCGTGT ACGGTGGGAG
      TATA
801 GTCTATATAA GCAGAGCTCT CTGGCTAACT AGAGAACCCA CTGCTTACTG GCTTATCGAA
      T7 promoter/priming site
861 ATTAATACGA CTCACTATAG GGAGACCCAA GCTG GCT AGC GTT TAA ACG GGC CCT
      Xho I Not I BstX I* EcoR V EcoR I
      Ala Ser Val *** Thr Gly Pro
916 CTA GAC TCG AGC GGC CGC CAC TGT GCT GGA TAT CTG CAG AAT TCC ACC
      Leu Asp Ser Ser Gly Arg His Cys Ala Gly Tyr Leu Gln Asn Ser Thr
      BstX I* BamH I Asp718 I Kpn I Hind III
964 ACA CTG GAC TAG TGG ATC CGA GCT CGG TAC CAA GCT TAC GTA GAA CAA
      Thr Leu Asp *** Trp Ile Arg Ala Arg Tyr Gln Ala Tyr Val Glu Gln
      myc epitope Polyhistidine tag
1012 AAA CTC ATC TCA GAA GAG GAT CTG AAT AGC GCC GTC GAC CAT CAT CAT
      Lys Leu Ile Ser Glu Glu Asp Leu Asn Ser Ala Val Asp His His His
      Afl II
1060 CAT CAT CAT TGA GTTTAAACG GTCTCCAGCT TAAGTTTAAA CCGCTGATCA
      His His His ***
      BGH Reverse priming site
1111 GCCTCGACTG TGCCTTCTAG TTGCCAGCCA TCTGTTGTTT GCCCCTCCCC CGTGCCTTCC

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\*Note that there are two *Bst*X I sites in the polylinker.

## General Guidelines and Special Information

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### ***E. coli*** **Transformation**

Transform your ligation mixtures into a competent *recA*, *endA* *E. coli* strain (e.g. TOP10, TOP10F', DH5 $\alpha$ <sup>™</sup>) and select on LB plates containing 50–100  $\mu$ g/mL ampicillin. Select 10–20 clones and analyze for the presence and orientation of your insert.

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We recommend that you sequence your construct to confirm that your gene is fused in frame with the *myc* epitope and the C-terminal polyhistidine tag. We suggest using the T7 Promoter and BGH Reverse primer sequences. Refer to the diagrams on pages 3–5 for the sequence and location of the primer binding sites.

For your convenience, we offer a custom primer synthesis service. For more information, refer to [www.lifetechnologies.com](http://www.lifetechnologies.com) or contact Technical Support (see page 12).

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### **Plasmid** **Preparation**

Plasmid DNA for transfection into eukaryotic cells must be very clean and free from phenol and sodium chloride. Contaminants will kill the cells and salt will interfere with lipid complexing decreasing transfection efficiency. We recommend isolating DNA using the PureLink<sup>®</sup> HiPure Miniprep Kit or the PureLink<sup>®</sup> HiPure Midiprep Kit (see page 11 for ordering information), or CsCl gradient centrifugation.

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### **Methods of** **Transfection**

For established cell lines (e.g. HeLa), consult original references or the supplier of your cell line for the optimal method of transfection. It is recommended that you follow exactly the protocol for your cell line. Pay particular attention to medium requirements, when to pass the cells, and at what dilution to split the cells. Further information is provided in *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*.

Methods for transfection include calcium phosphate (Chen and Okayama, 1987; Wigler *et al.*, 1977), lipid-mediated (Felgner *et al.*, 1989; Felgner and Ringold, 1989) and electroporation (Chu *et al.*, 1987; Shigekawa and Dower, 1988). The Calcium Phosphate Transfection Kit and a large selection of reagents for transfection are available for purchase. For more information on the reagents available, visit [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support) or call Technical Support (see page 12).

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### **Positive Control**

pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ* is provided as a positive control vector for mammalian transfection and expression (see page 9) and may be used to optimize transfection conditions for your cell line. The gene encoding  $\beta$ -galactosidase is expressed in mammalian cells under the CMV promoter. A successful transfection will result in  $\beta$ -galactosidase expression that can be easily assayed (see next page).

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*Continued on next page*

## General Guidelines and Special Information, Continued

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### Assay for $\beta$ -galactosidase Activity

You may assay for  $\beta$ -galactosidase expression by activity assay using cell-free lysates (Miller, 1972) or by staining the cells for activity. The  $\beta$ -Gal Assay Kit and the  $\beta$ -Gal Staining Kit are available for purchase for fast, easy detection of  $\beta$ -galactosidase expression (see page 11 for ordering).

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### Geneticin<sup>®</sup> Selective Antibiotic

Geneticin<sup>®</sup> blocks protein synthesis in mammalian cells by interfering with ribosomal function. It is an aminoglycoside, similar in structure to neomycin, gentamycin, and kanamycin. Expression of the bacterial aminoglycoside phosphotransferase gene (APH), derived from Tn5, in mammalian cells results in detoxification of Geneticin<sup>®</sup> (Southern and Berg, 1982).

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### Geneticin<sup>®</sup> Selection Guidelines

Geneticin<sup>®</sup> is available for purchase (see page 11 for ordering). Use as follows:

- Prepare Geneticin<sup>®</sup> in a buffered solution (e.g. 100 mM HEPES, pH 7.3).
- Use 100–1000  $\mu$ g/mL of Geneticin<sup>®</sup> in complete medium.
- Calculate concentration based on the amount of active drug (check the lot label).
- Test varying concentrations of Geneticin<sup>®</sup> on your cell line to determine the concentration that kills your cells (kill curve). Cells differ in their susceptibility to Geneticin<sup>®</sup>.

Cells will divide once or twice in the presence of lethal doses of Geneticin<sup>®</sup>, so the effects of the drug take several days to become apparent. Complete selection can take from 3–6 weeks of growth in selective medium.

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### Preparation of Cells for Purification

Use the procedure below to purify recombinant protein from a stable cell line. You will need  $5 \times 10^6$  to  $1 \times 10^7$  cells for purification on a 2 mL ProBond<sup>™</sup> column (see ProBond<sup>™</sup> Purification System manual).

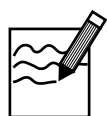
1. Seed cells in either five T-75 flasks or 2 to 3 T-175 flasks.
  2. Grow the cells in selective medium until they are 80–90% confluent.
  3. Harvest the cells by treating with trypsin-EDTA for 2–5 minutes or by scraping the cells in PBS.
  4. Inactivate the trypsin by diluting in fresh medium (if necessary), and transfer the cells to a sterile microcentrifuge tube.
  5. Centrifuge the cells at 1500 rpm for 5 minutes. You may lyse the cells immediately or freeze in liquid nitrogen and store at  $-70^\circ\text{C}$  until needed.
- 

### Lysis of Cells

If you are using ProBond<sup>™</sup> resin, refer to the ProBond<sup>™</sup> Purification System manual for details about sample preparation for chromatography.

If you are using other resin, refer to the manufacturer's instruction for recommendations on sample preparation.

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#### Note

The C-terminal peptide containing the *myc* epitope and the polyhistidine tag will add approximately 3 kDa to the size of your protein.

The size of the LacZ/*myc*-His fusion protein is approximately 121 kDa.

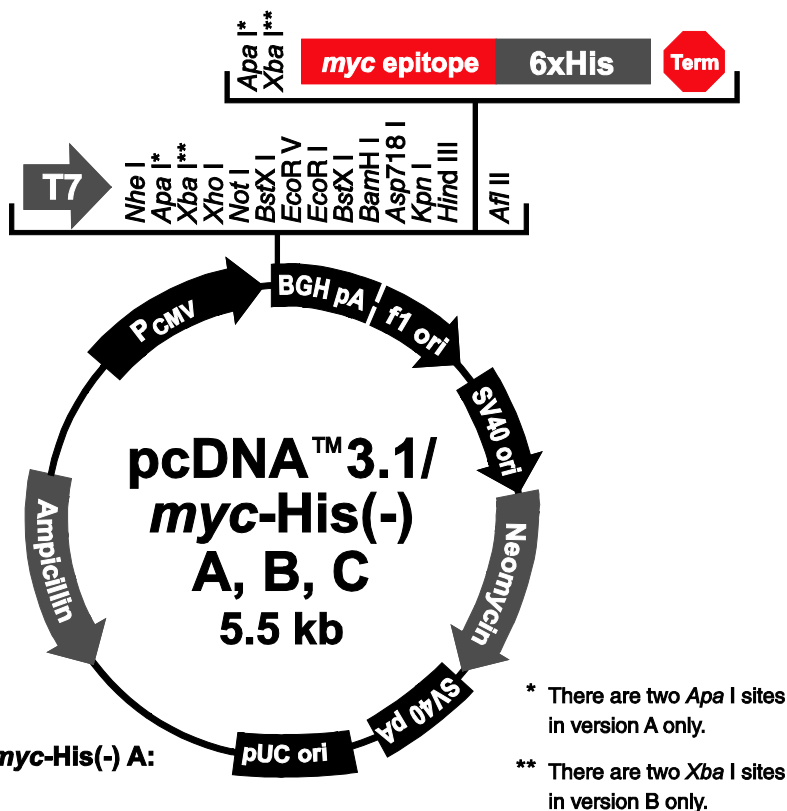
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## Appendix

### Map of pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C Vectors

#### Map of pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*- His(-)

The figure below summarizes the features of the pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) vectors. The sequences for pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C are available for downloading from [www.lifetechnologies.com](http://www.lifetechnologies.com) or from Technical Support (see page 12). Details of the multiple cloning sites for pcDNA<sup>™</sup> 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C are shown on pages 3–5.



## Features of pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) A, B, and C Vectors

### Features of pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*- His(-)

pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) A (5522 bp), pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) B (5520 bp), and pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His(-) C (5521 bp) contain the following elements. All features have been functionally tested.

Feature	Benefit
Human cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate-early promoter/enhancer	Allows efficient, high-level expression of your recombinant protein (Andersson <i>et al.</i> , 1989; Boshart <i>et al.</i> , 1985; Nelson <i>et al.</i> , 1987)
T7 promoter/priming site	Allows for <i>in vitro</i> transcription in the sense orientation and sequencing through the insert
Multiple cloning site in three reading frames	Allows insertion of your gene and facilitates cloning in frame with the C-terminal polyhistidine tag
<i>myc</i> epitope ( <i>c-myc</i> )	Allows detection of your recombinant protein with the Anti- <i>myc</i> Antibody or Anti- <i>myc</i> -HRP Antibody (see page 11 for ordering) (Evan <i>et al.</i> , 1985)
C-terminal polyhistidine tag	Allows purification of your recombinant protein on metal-chelating resin such as ProBond <sup>™</sup> . In addition, the C-terminal polyhistidine tag is the epitope for the Anti-His (C-term) Antibody and the Anti-His (C-term)-HRP Antibody (see page 11 for ordering).
BGH reverse priming site	Allows sequencing through the insert
Bovine growth hormone (BGH) polyadenylation signal	Efficient transcription termination and polyadenylation of mRNA (Goodwin and Rottman, 1992)
f1 origin	Allows rescue of single-stranded DNA
SV40 early promoter and origin	Allows efficient, high-level expression of the neomycin resistance gene and episomal replication in cells expressing SV40 large T antigen
Neomycin (Geneticin <sup>®</sup> ) resistance gene	Selection of stable transfectants in mammalian cells (Southern and Berg, 1982)
SV40 polyadenylation signal	Efficient transcription termination and polyadenylation of mRNA
pUC origin	High-copy number replication and growth in <i>E. coli</i>
Ampicillin resistance gene ( $\beta$ -lactamase)	Selection of vector in <i>E. coli</i>

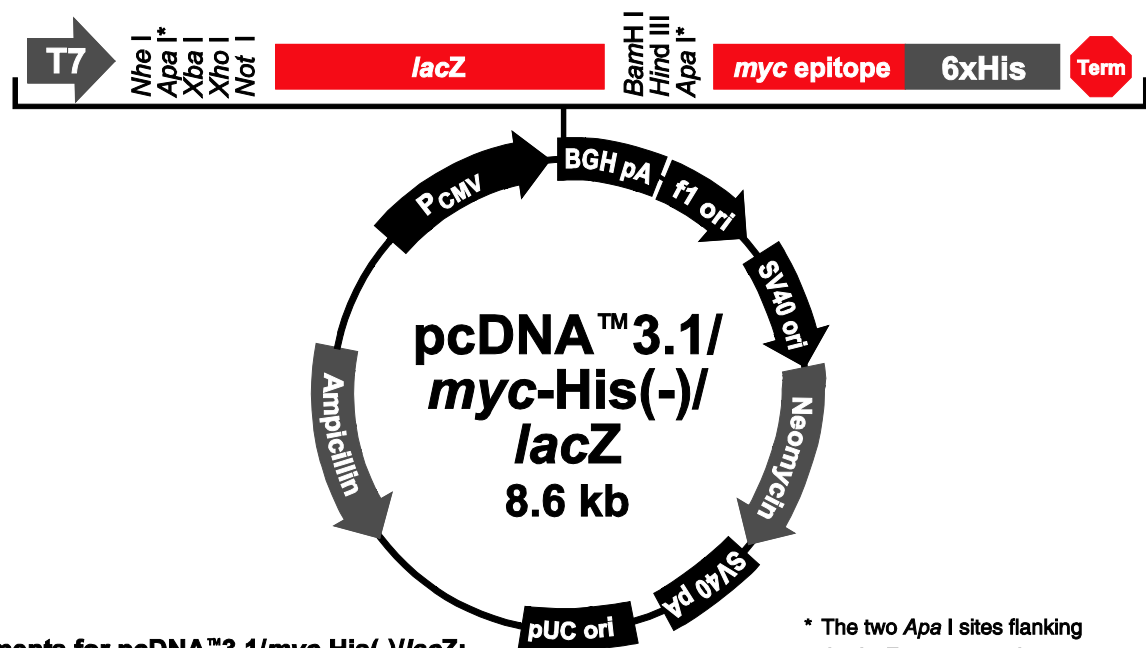
# Map of pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ*

## Description

pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ* is a 8592 bp control vector containing the gene for β-galactosidase. pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A was digested with *EcoR* V. A 3.2 kb blunt *Sfu* I-*Not* I fragment containing the β-galactosidase gene was then ligated into pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-) A in frame with the C-terminal peptide.

## Map of Control Vector

The figure below summarizes the features of the pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ* vector. The nucleotide sequence for pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ* is available for downloading from [www.lifetechnologies.com](http://www.lifetechnologies.com) or from Technical Support (see page 12).



### Comments for pcDNA™ 3.1/*myc*-His(-)/*lacZ*: 8592 nucleotides

\* The two *Apa* I sites flanking the *lacZ* gene are unique.

CMV promoter: bases 209-863

T7 promoter/priming site: bases 863-882

LacZ ORF: bases 954-4010

*myc* epitope: bases 4077-4106

Polyhistidine tag: bases 4122-4139

BGH reverse priming site: bases 4183-4200

BGH polyadenylation signal: bases 4186-4413

f1 origin: bases 4459-4887

SV40 promoter and origin: bases 4914-5222

Neomycin resistance gene: bases 5297-6091

SV40 polyadenylation signal: bases 6265-6395

pUC origin: bases 6778-7451

Ampicillin resistance gene: bases 75967-8456 (complementary strand)

## Accessory Products

### Additional Products

Many of the reagents suitable for use with pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His vectors are available for purchase. Ordering information for these reagents is provided below.

Item	Quantity	Cat. no.
Electrocomp <sup>™</sup> TOP10F'	5 × 80 µL	C665-55
One Shot <sup>®</sup> TOP10F' Chemically Competent <i>E. coli</i>	21 × 50 µL	C3030-03
β-Gal Assay Kit	1 kit	K1455-01
β-Gal Staining Kit	1 kit	K1465-01
Geneticin <sup>®</sup>	1 g	11811-023
	5 g	11811-031
	20 mL (50 mg/mL)	10131-035
	100 mL (50 mg/mL)	10131-027

### Detection of Recombinant Fusion Proteins

You can detect expression of your recombinant fusion protein from pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His using the Anti-*Myc* and Anti-His antibodies available for purchase.

Epitope	Antibody	Cat. no.
<i>c-myc</i>	Anti- <i>Myc</i>	R950-25
	Anti- <i>Myc</i> -HRP	R951-25
C-terminal polyhistidine tag	Anti-His(C-term)	R930-25
	Anti-His(C-term)-HRP	R931-25

### Purification of Recombinant Protein

The presence of the polyhistidine tag in pcDNA<sup>™</sup>3.1/*myc*-His allows purification of your recombinant fusion protein using a nickel-charged agarose resin such as ProBond<sup>™</sup>. Ordering information is provided below.

Item	Quantity	Cat. no.
ProBond <sup>™</sup> Purification System	6 purifications	K850-01
ProBond <sup>™</sup> Purification System with Anti- <i>myc</i> -HRP Antibody	1 Kit	K852-01
ProBond <sup>™</sup>	50 mL	R801-01
	150 mL	R801-15

# Technical Support

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## Obtaining support

For the latest services and support information for all locations, go to [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support).

At the website, you can:

- Access worldwide telephone and fax numbers to contact Technical Support and Sales facilities
- Search through frequently asked questions (FAQs)
- Submit a question directly to Technical Support ([techsupport@lifetech.com](mailto:techsupport@lifetech.com))
- Search for user documents, SDSs, vector maps and sequences, application notes, formulations, handbooks, certificates of analysis, citations, and other product support documents
- Obtain information about customer training
- Download software updates and patches

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## Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are available at [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support).

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## Certificate of Analysis

The Certificate of Analysis provides detailed quality control and product qualification information for each product. Certificates of Analysis are available on our website. Go to [www.lifetechnologies.com/support](http://www.lifetechnologies.com/support) and search for the Certificate of Analysis by product lot number, which is printed on the box.

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**Headquarters**

5791 Van Allen Way | Carlsbad, CA 92008 USA | Phone +1 760 603 7200 | Toll Free in USA 800 955 6288

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