

## Enzyme Digestion

Digest the plasmid DNA for the two parts with the appropriate enzymes for the desired ligation.

2.1 If you are digesting with EcoRI and PstI to verify the size of an insert, use 12  $\mu$  L of miniprep DNA, or at least 400 ng. If digesting to make a vector or an insert, the amount of DNA to digest depends how much DNA you need for your ligation.

2.2 Mix the DNA with 2  $\mu$  L of the appropriate buffer (see Table 1) in a 500-  $\mu$  L microfuge tube. Add

1  $\mu$  L of each enzyme (total enzyme volume cannot exceed 10% of reaction volume). Increase the volume

to 20  $\mu$  L with dH<sub>2</sub>O. Salt conditions for double digestion. Useful enzyme combinations for digesting

BioBrick parts with their optimal buffer and what the digestion produces. All five reactions are optimal at 37° C

Table 1

Restriction enzymes		Buffer	Product
EcoRI	XbaI	Low	Front vector
EcoRI	SpeI	Low	Front insert
SpeI	PstI	Medium	Back vector
XbaI	PstI	Low	Back insert
EcoRI	PstI	Buffer H	Whole insert

2.3 For size verification, incubate the reaction at 37° C for at least half an hour. For inserts and vectors, incubate the reaction for at least 3 h. For maximum digestion, incubate the reaction overnight.