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# True-Nuclear™ Transcription Factor Staining Protocol for 96-Well, U-Bottom Plate V.5 [↗](#)

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1 Works for me

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bacriav6](https://doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bacriav6)

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## EXTERNAL LINK

<https://www.biolegend.com/protocols/true-nuclear-transcription-factor-staining-protocol-for-96-well-u-bottom-plate/4246/>

## GUIDELINES

## General Tips and FAQ:

*What are some improvements in the True-Nuclear™ Buffer compared to the Foxp3 Fix/Perm (Cat. No. 421403) and the Nuclear Factor Fixation and Permeabilization Buffer Sets (Cat. No. 422601)?*

- Less background for nuclear staining (e.g.- Foxp3) staining, offering improved signal/noise ratio for better population distinction
- Minimal effects on surface staining, especially those stained using tandem fluorophores such as APC/FIRE™ 750

*I am observing high background staining. What can I do to reduce it?*

- Longer fixation time – as noted in the fixation step, a longer fixation period can help ameliorate high background

*Is the True-Nuclear™ Buffer set recommended for intracellular cytokine staining?*

- No: The permeabilization conditions required for staining transcription factors using True-Nuclear™ (or Foxp3 Fix/Perm and Nuclear Factor Fixation and Permeabilization Buffer Sets) is much harsher than those recommended for staining cytokines (i.e.- cells become more porous). This can lead to cytokine leakage upon permeabilization, resulting in loss of signal. For staining intracellular cytokines, we recommend using the [Fixation \(Cat. No. 420801\)](#) and [Permeabilization Wash Buffers \(Cat. No. 421002\)](#) and following our intracellular staining protocol, which can be found [here](#).

*Any known nuclear targets not suited for detection using the True-Nuclear™ buffer?*

- Ki-67: You can find our recommended protocol for Ki-67 staining [here](#).

## MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
<a href="#">True-Nuclear™ Transcription Factor Buffer Set</a>	<a href="#">424401</a>	<a href="#">BioLegend</a>
<a href="#">Cell Staining Buffer</a>	<a href="#">420201</a>	<a href="#">BioLegend</a>

- 1 Perform cell surface staining as described in BioLegend's Cell Surface Flow Cytometry Protocol.
- 2 After the last wash, discard the supernatant, and gently vortex the samples to dissociate the cell pellet.

- 3 Add 200µL of the True-Nuclear™ 1X Fix Concentrate to each well. Gently pipette to ensure cells are fully resuspended. Incubate at room temperature in the dark for 45-60 minutes.
- 4 Centrifuge the plate at 300-400xg at room temperature for 5 minutes, discard the supernatant, and gently vortex to dissociate the cell pellet. Tip: If necessary, the protocol can be suspended at this point. After discarding supernatant, re-suspend cells in CytoLast™ Buffer (Cat. No. [422501](#)) or equivalent. Samples can be stored at 4°C for 12-18 hours, protected from light and plastic-wrapped to protect buffer evaporation.
- 5 Add 200µL of the True-Nuclear™ 1X Perm Buffer to each well.
- 6 Centrifuge the plate at 300-400xg at room temperature for 5 minutes, discard the supernatant, and gently vortex to dissociate the cell pellet.
- 7 Repeat steps 5-6 for 2 additional times, for a total of 3 washes using the True-Nuclear™ 1X Perm Buffer.
- 8 Add the appropriate amount of fluorochrome conjugated antibody diluted in True-Nuclear™ 1X Perm Buffer for detection of intracellular antigen(s) to each well and incubate in the dark at room temperature for at least 30 minutes.
- 9 Add 200µL of the True-Nuclear™ 1X Perm Buffer to each well.
- 10 Centrifuge the plate at 300-400xg at room temperature for 5 minutes, discard the supernatant, and gently vortex to dissociate the cell pellet.
- 11 Repeat steps 9-10 for 2 additional times, for a total of 3 washes using the True-Nuclear™ 1X Perm Buffer.
- 12 Resuspend in cells in appropriate volume of cell staining buffer and acquire samples on a flow cytometer.



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