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## C. elegans bleaching solution preparation V.1

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[1](#) Works for me [dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.3kkgkuw](https://doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.3kkgkuw)


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### ABSTRACT

The *C. elegans* bleaching solution is used for several purposes:

- destroying and removing bacterial or fungal cells from a contaminated *C. elegans* population. This is possible because *C. elegans* eggs are resistant to the bleaching used in this protocol but most fungi and bacteria are not.

- synchronising a *C. elegans* population consisting of worms at different developmental stages. This is possible because eggs are resistant to the bleaching used in this protocol but hatched worms (larvae and adults) are not.

### MATERIALS

NAME ▾	CATALOG # ▾	VENDOR ▾
Disposable gloves, nitrile		
sodium hydroxide 10 M	<a href="#">View</a>	
DEPC water	<a href="#">View</a>	
Sodium hypochlorite solution	239305-500ML	Honeywell International Inc.
50 ml Falcon tube	<a href="#">View</a>	

### SAFETY WARNINGS

Sodium hypochlorite and sodium hydroxide are highly toxic and should be handled with care, wearing a lab coat and goggles. Read relevant information.

### BEFORE STARTING

Prepare the bleaching solution.

Get a plate of gravid (= pregnant) worms or a plate with lots of unhatched eggs if you want to carry out an egg prep.

- 1 Add 42 ml DEPC water to a 50 ml Falcon tube. 3m
- 2 Add 3 ml 10 M NaOH 3m
- 3 Add 5 ml sodium hypochlorite solution 3m
- 4 See relevant protocol for details but 6 ml of bleaching solution for 5 minutes on a vortex in 14 ml tubes should be sufficient to dissolve worms and spare eggs.



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