

# Cleaning stir bars

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## Introduction

This protocol is for cleaning stir bars used in emulsion PCR. This protocol was modified based on arbor biosciences Immortal Library protocol Version 1.4. The recent version of their protocol is using a debubbling approach.

## Materials

1. Pivot stir bar
  - 3x8mm; Sigma-Aldrich; Cat no. Z329061
2. Soap
3. Concentrated HCl

## Procedure

1. Add 5 mL of 10% soap solution in 15mL conical tube. Soak used stir bars for >10 min.
  - Process all stir bars together.
2. Wash the stir bars with DI water to completely remove the soap.
  - No soap bubbles when shaking.
3. Change gloves
4. In fume hood add concentrated HCl (12.1 N) to cover the stir bars.
  - Close the lid, shake and let stand for 10 min.
4. In fume hood, open the cap and discard acid into the acid waste container.
5. Change gloves
6. Wash stir bars thoroughly with deionized water to completely remove any residual HCl.
7. In fume hood, spread stir bars on Kimwipes, turn on UV and let dry (~10 min)
8. Change gloves.
9. Store stir bars in 15ml conical tubes.