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Target Guide Sequence Cloning Protocol

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ABSTRACT

Create single gRNA vectors for targeted cloning utilizing CRISPR or CRISPR-based systems.

THIS PROTOCOL ACCOMPANIES THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION

Improved vectors and genome-wide libraries for CRISPR screening . Sanjana NE, Shalem O, Zhang F. Nat Methods. 2014 Aug;11(8):783-4. doi: 10.1038/nmeth.3047. 10.1038/nmeth.3047PubMed 25075903

ATTACHMENTS

[Lentivirus_Protocol.pdf](#)[Addgene_Protocol -
Bacterial
Transformation.pdf](#)

DOI

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PROTOCOL CITATION

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MANUSCRIPT CITATION please remember to cite the following publication along with this protocol

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KEYWORDS

Lentivirus vector, cloning, vector digestion, oligo annealing, CRISPR

LICENSE

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IMAGE ATTRIBUTION

<https://www.addgene.org/52963/>

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Jul 14, 2020

LAST MODIFIED

Aug 03, 2020

PROTOCOL INTEGER ID

39258

MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
NEBuffer 3.1 - 5.0 ml	B7203S	New England Biolabs
T4 DNA Ligase - 20,000 units	M0202S	New England Biolabs
Agar		
lentiGuide-Puro	52963	addgene
double distilled water (ddH2O)		
SOC Media		
1X TAE Buffer		
10X NEB T4 DNA ligase buffer		New England Biolabs
10X T4 PNK Reaction Buffer		New England Biolabs
ethanol		
10X PCR Buffer	10966-034	Life Technologies
LB-Broth Miller (= LB mix)	LMM0104	Formedium
One Shot™; TOP10 Chemically Competent <i>E. coli</i>	C404010	Thermo Fisher
BsmBI-v2	R0739L	New England Biolabs
HotStarTaq Plus DNA Polymerase (1000)	203605	Qiagen
dNTP Set (100mM each A C G T)	95038-256	Ge Healthcare

STEPS MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
ddH2O		
NEBuffer 3.1 - 5.0 ml	B7203S	New England Biolabs
lentiGuide-Puro	52963	addgene
double distilled water (ddH2O)		
10X T4 PNK Reaction Buffer		New England Biolabs
BsmBI-v2	R0739L	New England Biolabs
One Shot™; TOP10 Chemically Competent <i>E. coli</i>	C404010	Thermo Fisher
10X NEB T4 DNA ligase buffer		New England Biolabs
T4 DNA Ligase - 20,000 units	M0202S	New England Biolabs
ethanol		
LB-Broth Miller (= LB mix)	LMM0104	Formedium
SOC Media		
Agar		
1X TAE Buffer		
10X PCR Buffer	10966-034	Life Technologies
HotStarTaq Plus DNA Polymerase (1000)	203605	Qiagen
dNTP Set (100mM each A C G T)	95038-256	Ge Healthcare

MATERIALS TEXT

lentiGuide-Puro: RRID:Addgene_52963
Sigma-Aldrich: RRID:SCR_008988

EQUIPMENT

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
Snap Cap Microcentrifuge Tube or equivalent	07200210	
Mini-centrifuge	S67601B	
SimpliAmp Thermal Cycler	A24811	

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
Oven	15-103-0510	

DISCLAIMER:

This protocol is a modified version of the Zhang Lab's *GeCKOv2* Target Guide Sequence Cloning Protocol attached below based off of Joung, J., Konermann, S., Gootenberg, J. *et al.* Genome-scale CRISPR-Cas9 knockout and transcriptional activation screening. *Nat Protoc* **12**, 828–863 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nprot.2017.016>

Other protocols modified/used in this protocol:

Bacterial Transformation, Addgene: <https://www.addgene.org/protocols/bacterial-transformation/>


More information about the specific lentiGuide-puro plasmid can be found here: <https://www.addgene.org/52963/>.

BEFORE STARTING

Design and order gRNA oligos from [Sigma-Aldrich](https://www.sigmaaldrich.com) (RRID:SCR_008988).

Lentiviral vector digestion

- 1 Digest and dephosphorylate **2 µl (equivalent to 1 µg)** of the



lentiGuide-Puro
by addgene
Catalog #: 52963

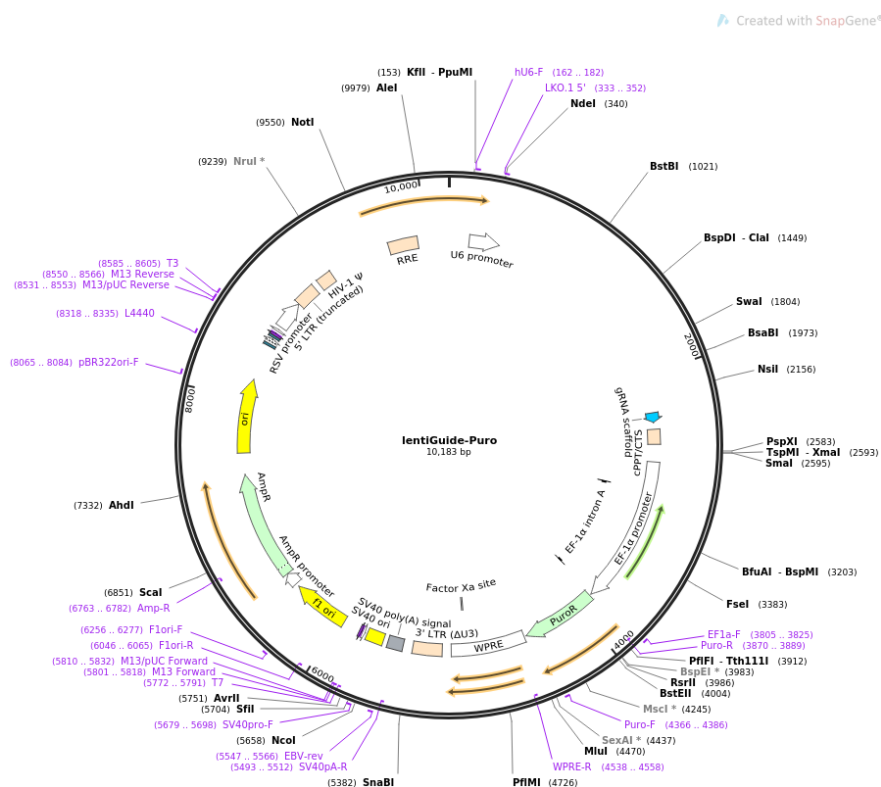


Image attribution: <https://www.addgene.org/52963/>

with



BsmBI-v2

by New England Biolabs

Catalog #: R0739L

for 03:30:00 at 37 °C .



Note: we used BsmBI Cat #R0580, NEB, but this one has been discontinued. #R0739L is considered as an effective replacement.

1.1 Add 40 µl



ddH2O

to a 1.5 mL



Snap Cap Microcentrifuge Tube or
equivalent
Polypropylene Microcentrifuge Tube
Corning Costar Snap Cap Microcentrifuge
Tube
2 mL snap cap polypropylene micro tube



07200210 [↗](#)

1.2 Add 5 µl of




NEBuffer 3.1 - 5.0 ml

by New England Biolabs

Catalog #: B7203S

to solution.


1.3 Add 3 µl of



BsmBI-v2
by New England Biolabs
Catalog #: R0739L

to solution.

1.4 Add 2 µl of



lentiGuide-Puro
by addgene
Catalog #: 52963


to solution.

1.5 Close cap on microcentrifuge tube and place in




Mini-centrifuge
Centrifuge
Fisher S67601B [↗](#)
Any standard mini centrifuge with adapters for different tube sizes will suffice




for  **00:00:10** on until all of the solution is at the bottom of the tube.

1.6 Place microcentrifuge tube with vector digestion mixture in a



Oven
Oven forced-air convection
Fisher Isotemp 15-103-0510 [↗](#)



on  **55 °C**

1.7 Close lid and set a timer for **01:00:00**

Gel purify the digested plasmid from Step 1

- 2 Prepare 1.2-1.5% gel of



Agar

for  **100 mL** of



1X TAE Buffer

solution.

- 2.1 Run gel and isolate 2kb and 8kb band. Collect 8kb (8318 bp) band for gel purification.

Preparing the gRNAs

- 3 Design gRNA sequence for CRISPR strategy using [CRISPR direct](#).

- 4 Order oligos from [Sigma-Aldrich](#) (RRID:SCR_008988).

- 5 Create a dilution from stock oligos at a 1:10 ratio in



double distilled water (ddH₂O)



Diluted oligo concentration should be **10 Micromolar (μM)**.

Phosphorylate and anneal each pair of oligos

- 6 Add  **6.5 μl**



double distilled water (ddH₂O)

to a microcentrifuge tube.

6.1 Add  **1 μ l** each of **[M]10 Micromolar (μ M)** Oligo 1 (F), **[M]10 Micromolar (μ M)** Oligo 2 (R), and



10X NEB T4 DNA ligase buffer

by New England Biolabs

6.2

Add  **0.5 μ l**



10X T4 PNK Reaction Buffer

by New England Biolabs

6.3 Vortex, microcentrifuge, and then place phosphorylation/annealing reaction in a



SimpliAmp Thermal Cycler
PCR

Applied Biosystems A24811 [↗](#)

Any standard PCR thermocycler will suffice



with the following settings: **37 °C** for **00:30:00** , **95 °C** for **00:05:00** , and then ramp down to **25 °C** at **5 °C / 00:01:00** .

Setting up and incubating the ligation reaction


7 Place  **4.8 μ l** of



double distilled water (ddH₂O)

in a microcentrifuge tube.

7.1 Add  **2.2 μ l**




BsmBI-v2
by New England Biolabs
Catalog #: R0739L

7.2 Add  **1 µl** each of



10X NEB T4 DNA ligase buffer
by New England Biolabs

, diluted oligo duplex from [go to step #6](#) , and




T4 DNA Ligase - 20,000 units
by New England Biolabs
Catalog #: M0202S

7.3 Lightly vortex, microcentrifuge, and incubate at room temperature for  **02:00:00** -  **03:00:00**

Transformation into E. coli bacteria

8 Take competent cells



One Shot™ TOP10 Chemically Competent E. coli
by Thermo Fisher
Catalog #: C404010

out of  **-80 °C** and thaw on ice ( **00:20:00** -  **00:30:00**).

9 Remove Agar Ampicillin Plates  **250 µl** from  **4 °C** and let warm up to room temperature.

10 Set up a sterile environment for your bench area by wiping down your bench with at least 70%



ethanol

and lighting a bunsen burner.




- 11 Add  **100 µl** of E.coli cells to  **10 µl** of DNA in a microcentrifuge tube next to the bunsen burner.



When working with the E. coli, be very diligent and make sure you are working in the sterile area of your bench near the bunsen burner flame.

- 11.1 Gently flick tube a few times with your finger to mix.

- 12 Incubate the competent cell/DNA mixture on ice for  **00:30:00** .

- 13 Heat shock transformation tube(s) by placing into water bath at  **42 °C** for  **00:00:30** -  **00:01:00**

- 14 Place the transformation tube(s) back on ice for  **00:02:00** .

- 15 Add  **250 µl**






LB-Broth Miller (= LB mix)
by Formedium
Catalog #: [LMM0104](#)

(without antibiotic) or



SOC Media
[View](#)

to the tube(s).

- 16 Place tube(s) in  **37 °C** shaking incubator for  **00:45:00** -  **01:00:00** .

- 17 Plate all of transformation onto LB agar plate(s) with ampicillin.

18 Incubate plates at **37 °C** overnight.

Colony Selection and Suspension Growth

19 Select 10-15 colonies from each agar plate to suspend in an LB solution.



We originally selected only 4 colonies from each plate, but did not have a successful PCR. To increase chances of successfully amplifying the plasmid vector, we suggest picking 10-15 colonies.

20 Place each colony in a tube with **3 mL** of LB.



Reminder to work in an aseptic area when handling the bacterial colonies.

21 Place tubes into shaking incubator at **37 °C** overnight.



Strong suggestion to do this whole section sometime in the late afternoon (~4-5pm), so that you can run PCR for the bacterial plasmids you collect the next morning (~16 hours later). More than 24 hours of incubation can cause other non-ampicillin resistant bacteria to grow in the suspension tubes.

Run PCR for Bacterial Plasmids

22 Proportions for the Master PCR Mix are below. Simply multiply each value by the same amount (x 10, 15, etc.) according to how much master mix you think you'll need to run your sets.

22.1

Add **15.875 µl**



ddH2O

, **2.5 µl**



10X PCR Buffer

by Life Technologies

Catalog #: 10966-034




,  **0.5 µl** [M] **10 Milimolar (mM)**



dNTP Set (100mM each A C G T)

by Ge Healthcare

Catalog #: 95038-256

,  **2 µl** [M] **10 Micromolar (µM)** Forward Primer hU6-02,  **2 µl** [M] **10 Micromolar (µM)** Reverse Primer (gRNA reverse primer oligo), and  **0.125 µl**



HotStarTaq Plus DNA Polymerase (1000)


by Qiagen


Catalog #: 203605

to microcentrifuge tube.




Forward Primer hU6-02 sequence: TAATTAGAATTAATTTGACT
Ordered from [Sigma-Aldrich](#) (RRID:SCR_008988).

23 Aliquot equal proportions of master mix to each PCR well (we used  **23 µl**).

24 Add  **2 µl** of each bacterial suspension sample from [go to step #21](#) to each PCR well.



Total volume of Master Mix and Sample should be  **25 µl** in each well.

25 Seal off PCR wells tightly with a clear plastic cover or tube tops.

26 Centrifuge  **1200 rpm 00:01:00** .

27 Place in thermocycler and run PCR. Settings should be as follows:

- 1) 95C for 5mins (ramp up).
- 2) 95C for 30sec.
- 3) 55C for 45 sec.
- 4) 72C for 45 sec.

- x35 cycles steps 2-4.
5) 72 for 10mins.



PCR product is about 200bp.

Running Gel for PCR

- 28 Prepare a gel of 2% concentration. Run gel and examine bands. Desired band length is about 200bp with the gRNA insertion.

Congrats!

- 29 You have successfully transformed a lentiviral vector with your gRNA sequence of interest! For confirmation, feel free to sequence your vector.