



JAN 10, 2024

UV decontamination of materials

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ABSTRACT

Protocol for reducing DNA contamination on tubes, bottles, zip lock bags and other reaction vessels and containers used in the ancient DNA cleanroom by UV treatment.

OPEN  ACCESS



DOI:

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5qpvo31y9v4o/v1

Document Citation: Elena Essel 2024. UV decontamination of materials . **protocols.io**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.5qpvo31y9v4o/v1>

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Created: Dec 29, 2023

Last Modified: Jan 10, 2024

DOCUMENT integer ID:
92816

Funders
Acknowledgement:

Max Planck Society

Note

The effectiveness of UV treatment for DNA decontamination strongly depends on the permeability of material for UV light.

Materials

Consumables	Supplier
Tubes, storage vessel/container, zip-lock bag, other items	various

Equipment

- UV Crosslinker (e.g., Bio-Link UV Crosslinker, Labortechnik, cat. no. 110.0079)
- aluminum foil (e.g., Roth, cat. no. AA76.1)

Protocol

Note

Always use fresh gloves for handling the materials you want to decontaminate before and especially after UV treatment to avoid any additional contamination being introduced to the materials.

1. If the materials you want to UV treat can be closed (e.g. Eppendorf tubes) close them to avoid contamination after treatment.
2. Place the materials on a piece of aluminum foil inside the UV cross linker.
3. UV treat equipment twice in Crosslinker set to 7.000 J (approximate time of irradiation is 40 min per round).
4. Store cleaned and UV treated equipment in an appropriate, clean storage container.

Note

[Labeling]

Label the storage container with content, date and your initials.