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# Low Volume Methodology for Nextera DNA Flex Library Prep Kit (96 Samples)

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## ABSTRACT

This protocol presents a low volume methodology for the Nextera DNA Flex Library Prep Kit (96 Samples). This method increases the number of sequencing libraries which can be generated using each kit from 384 samples (4 x 96-wells) to 864 samples (9 x 96-wells). While other low-cost methods have been developed for this purpose, this protocol is a very straightforward method utilizing reduced reagent and sample volumes.

Update: The "Nextera DNA Flex Library Prep" kit has been renamed to "Illumina DNA Prep" with the appropriate indexes having been similarly renamed. While all reagents and steps remain identical, an updated version of this protocol may be published to account for any differences between the protocols.

## THIS PROTOCOL ACCOMPANIES THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION

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## GUIDELINES

### Primers used with the Kapa HiFi ReadyMix:

KAPA-PCR-F: AATGATACGGCGACCACCG\*A

KAPA-PCR-R: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACG\*A

Order these from IDT at 1umole scale with HPLC purification.

The \* is a phosphothioate bond that prevents polymerases with 3'-5' proof-reading activity from chewing back the oligos

#### MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
Proteinase K		
Nuclease-free Water		
Kapa HiFi Hotstart ReadyMix (2x)	KK2612	Kapa Biosystems
Fresh 80% Ethanol		
Magnetic Stand-96	AM10027	ThermoFisher
Sterile reagent reservoirs		
Nextera DNA Flex Library Prep	20018705	Illumina, Inc.
Adhesive PCR Plate Foils	AB0626	Thermo Fisher
0.2mL PCR Tube Strips, 8-Tube Strip; 120/Pk.	E0030124286	Thermo Fisher
96-well PCR plates		
IDT for Illumina Nextera DNA Unique Dual Indexes	20027213	Illumina, Inc.

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#### ABSTRACT

This protocol presents a low volume methodology for the Nextera DNA Flex Library Prep Kit (96 Samples). This method increases the number of sequencing libraries which can be generated using each kit from 384 samples (4 x 96-wells) to 864 samples (9 x 96-wells). While other low-cost methods have been developed for this purpose, this protocol is a very straightforward method utilizing reduced reagent and sample volumes.

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#### BEFORE STARTING

1. Enter and save the **TAGflex** tagmentation protocol on the thermal cyclers:
  - a. Enable the heated lid (to 100°C if the option is available)
  - b. 55°C for 15m followed by a hold at 10°C
2. Enter and save the **TAGstop** tagmentation stop protocol on the thermal cyclers:
  - a. Enable the heated lid (to 100°C if the option is available)
  - b. 37°C for 15m followed by a hold at 10°C
3. Enter and save the **flexPCR** protocol on the thermal cyclers:
  - a. 72°C for 3m
  - b. 98°C for 3m
  - c. 12 cycles of:
    - i. 98°C for 45s

- ii. 62°C for 30s
  - iii. 72°C for 2m
  - d. 72°C for 1m
  - e. 4°C hold
4. Enter and save the **protK** protocol on the thermal cyclers:
- a. 37°C for 30m
  - b. 68°C for 10m
  - c. 4°C hold

## Preparation

- 1 Equilibrate the following reagents at **Room temperature** for **00:30:00**  
 Bead-Linked Transposomes (**BLT**)  
 Tagmentation Buffer (**TB1**)  
 Tagment Stop Buffer (**TSB**)  
 Tagment Wash Buffer (**TWB**)  
 Sample Purification Beads (**SPB**)
- 2 Thaw the **Resuspension Buffer (RSB)** and bring to **Room temperature** then vortex to mix
- 3 Prepare a **proteinase K** solution at **300 µg/mL**



For a 1mL solution: add 15µL of 20mg/mL proteinase K to 985µL of nuclease-free water

- 4 Thaw **KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X)** **On ice**
- 5 Thaw the **i5 and i7 indexes** at **Room temperature**



Index tubes: vortex and spin down briefly

Index plates: spin down at **1500 rpm** to ensure no droplets remain on the plate cover

Index stocks should be diluted to **10 Micromolar (µM)** working stocks

- 6 Prepare a **Tagmentation Master Mix (TMM)**

TMM contains 1µL BLT and 1µL TB1 per reaction

Vortex BLT vigorously before use and ensure the beads are evenly resuspended

6.1 Make a 110X mix: **110 µl TB1** + **110 µl BLT**

Vortex to mix

## 7 Prepare **PCR Master Mix (PCR MM)** **On ice**

PMM contains 2.75µL nuclease-free water, 0.5µL KAPA-PCR-F primer, 0.5µL KAPA-PCR-R primer, and 6.25µL KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X) per reaction



See Guidelines section for KAPA primer design

KAPA primer stocks should be diluted to **10 Micromolar (µM)**

7.1 Make a 110X mix:  **302.5 µl nuclease-free water** +  **55 µl KAPA-PCR-F** +  
 **55 µl KAPA-PCR-R** +  **687.5 µl KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X)**

Vortex to mix and briefly spin down


## 8 Prepare a diluted **SPB Master Mix (SPB MM)**

 **54 µl SPB** +  **48 µl nuclease-free water**


### 96-Well Tagmentation

9 Transfer at least  **100 ng genomic DNA** (up to 500ng) into each well of a 96-well PCR plate in **1-5µL**

10 Adjust the volume of each well to  **5 µl total volume** using nuclease-free water

11 Load  **27 µl TMM** into each tube of an 8-strip of PCR tubes

Vortex TMM thoroughly before use and ensure the beads remain evenly suspended while being aliquoted into the 96-well plate

12 Add  **2 µl TMM** to each well using an 8-channel pipette

Thoroughly mix by gentle pipetting



If beads are adhered to the top or side of the 96-well plate, briefly centrifuge and fully resuspend the bead pellet by pipetting until thoroughly mixed








13 Seal the plate with a PCR plate cover, place in a thermal cycler, and run the **TAGflex** program



It is especially important to be able to remove the plate seal as easily as possible to prevent cross contamination

Proceed **immediately** to the next steps upon completion of the TAGflex cycle

## Post Tagmentation Cleanup

- 14 Load  **15 µl TSB** per tube in an 8-strip of PCR tubes
- 15 Gently remove the plate seal and add  **1 µl TSB** into each tagmentation reaction using an 8-channel pipette  
Mix by gently pipetting the entire volume, ensuring the beads are fully resuspend
- 16 Seal the plate, place in a thermal cycler, and run the **TAGstop** program
- 17 Remove the seal and place the plate on a 96-well magnetic plate stand for  **00:03:00** or until solution is clear
- 18 Carefully remove the supernatant using an 8-channel pipette without disturbing the beads
- 19 Load  **6 mL TWB** into a sterile trough to pipette from
- 20 Remove the plate from the magnetic stand and add  **20 µl TWB** to each well using an 8-channel pipette  
Mix by gently pipetting (slowly, to minimize foaming) until beads are fully resuspended
- 21 Place the plate on the magnetic stand for  **00:03:00** or until solution is clear
- 22 Carefully remove the supernatant using an 8-channel pipette without disturbing the beads
- 23 Repeat steps 20-22 one more time for a total of 2 washes
- 24 Remove the plate from the magnetic stand and add  **20 µl TWB** to each well  
Gently pipette until beads are fully resuspended
- 25 Seal the plate and place on the magnetic stand to incubate until needed in the next section



Keeping the pellet in TWB helps prevent over-drying of the beads

## Amplify Tagmented DNA


26 Load  **135 µl PCR MM** per tube into an 8-strip of PCR tubes (store  **On ice** until needed)

27 Carefully remove the TWB supernatant from the samples while on the magnetic stand


 Any remaining foam on the well walls should not adversely affect the library


28 Remove the plate from the magnetic stand and proceed immediately to the next step to prevent excessive drying of the beads


29 Add  **10 µl PCR MM** to each sample and pipette the mix to ensure the beads are thoroughly resuspended

 Pipette with moderate force as the beads can be difficult to fully resuspend



30 Seal the plate and spin down briefly up to  **1000 rpm**

31 Add  **2.5 µl** of an equimolar mix of each i7 and i5 index combination to their respective wells

 Individual index tubes: 1.25µL i7 index (N7xx) + 1.25µL i5 index (N5xx)  
Pre-mixed index plate: Transfer 2.5µL of each index combination using an 8-channel pipette

32 Pipette to mix a minimum of 10 times, then seal the plate and briefly spin up to  **1000 rpm**

33 Place the plate in a thermal cycler and run the **flexPCR** program

34 Remove the plate from the thermal cycler and spin down for  **00:01:00** at  **280 x g**

35 Load  **35 µl** of  **300 µg/mL proteinase K** per tube into an 8-strip of PCR tubes

36 Remove the plate seal and add  **2.5 µl proteinase K** to each PCR reaction using an 8-channel pipette

Mix the wells by pipetting a 10µL volume at least ten times

37 Seal the plate, place in a thermal cycler, and run the **protK** program

38 If stopping, keep the plate sealed and store at 4°C for up to 3 days

Otherwise, continue with the next section

#### Post-PCR Library Clean Up

39 Remove the seal and place the plate on the magnetic stand for  **00:05:00** or until the supernatant is clear

40 Using an 8-channel pipette, transfer  **2 µl PCR supernatant** from each well into an 8-strip of PCR tubes

41 From the 8-strip of PCR tubes, transfer all samples to a single 1.5mL Eppendorf tube



Each tube in the strip should contain ~24µL of pooled sample, yielding ~192µL of pooled libraries

42 Vortex and briefly spin down to mix the pooled libraries evenly

43 Transfer a  **45 µl aliquot** of the pooled libraries to a new 1.5mL Eppendorf tube

44 Vortex and invert **SPB MM** multiple times to ensure full resuspension

45 Add  **85 µl SPB MM** to the pooled library aliquot

Pipette until thoroughly mixed



Complete mixing is critical to proper size distribution of libraries

46 Incubate at  **Room temperature** for  **00:05:00**

- 47 Place the Eppendorf tube on a magnetic stand for ⌚ 00:05:00 or until the supernatant is clear
- 48 Transfer 📄 120 µl **supernatant** into a new 1.5mL tube without disturbing the beads
- 49 Vortex and invert the **SPB** (undiluted stock) until thoroughly resuspended
- 50 Add 📄 14.4 µl **SPB (undiluted stock)** to the new 1.5mL tube containing the supernatant
- 51 Pipette a 120µL volume until thoroughly mixed
- 52 Incubate at 🌡 **Room temperature** for ⌚ 00:05:00
- 53 Place the Eppendorf tube on a magnetic stand for ⌚ 00:05:00 or until clear
- 54 Remove and discard the supernatant without disturbing the beads
- 55 With the tube on the magnetic stand, add 📄 200 µl **80% ethanol** without mixing and incubate for 30s
- 📄 Add enough 80% ethanol so that the beads are entirely submerged
- 56 Pipette to remove the ethanol without disturbing the beads
- 57 Repeat steps 55-56 one more time for a total of 2 washes
- 58 Remove any excess liquid from the tube using a pipette without disturbing the beads



- 59 Air-dry beads on the magnetic stand for ⌚ 00:05:00
- 60 Warm 🧊 35 µl RSB at 🌡 50 °C to increase final library yield
- 61 Remove the 1.5mL tube from the magnetic stand
- 62 Add 🧊 32 µl RSB (warm) to the beads  
Pipette mix until thoroughly resuspended
- 63 Incubate on the bench at 🌡 Room temperature for ⌚ 00:02:00
- 64 Place the 1.5mL tube back on the magnetic stand for ⌚ 00:02:00 or until clear
- 65 Transfer 🧊 30 µl supernatant into a new 1.5mL Eppendorf tube
- 66 Let the tube with the eluted library sit at 🌡 50 °C for ⌚ 00:05:00 to ensure complete dissolution of the library
- 67 Quantify the library using a Qubit fluorometer  
Determine fragment size distribution using a Bioanalyzer