

Stripping an array

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Equipment and reagents

- ◆ Geiger-Müller counter (Mini-Instruments Ltd.)
- ◆ Microwave oven
- ◆ Storage phosphor screen (Fuji or Kodak)
- ◆ Magnetic stirrer
- ◆ PhosphorImager or STORM (Molecular Dynamics)
- ◆ Glass beaker, 500 ml
- ◆ Stripping solution: 100 mM sodium carbonate/bicarbonate pH 9.8–10, 0.01% SDS

Method

- 1 Heat the stripping solution in a microwave oven to 90 °C in a glass beaker.
- 2 Immerse the array into the hot stripping solution and stir for 1–2 min with a magnetic stirrer.
- 3 Remove the array and wash it thoroughly with nuclease-free water, 70% ethanol, and finally with absolute ethanol.
- 4 Air dry the array.
- 5 Monitor with a Geiger counter to confirm that most of the radiolabel has been removed.^a
- 6 Expose to a storage phosphor screen for 16–20 h and analyse on a PhosphorImager to verify complete removal of the radiolabel. The array is now ready for reuse.

Notes

- a Repeat steps 1–4 if radioactivity on the surface of the array is still detectable.