

C&E Version
ExpressArt TR*inucleotide* mRNA amplification
Nano kit
for degraded RNAs and for FFPE samples
suitable for standard gene expression microarrays
and for whole transcript arrays
"Exon Arrays" & "Gene Arrays"

Catalogue No. 6299-A15
(30 amplification reactions, 2 rounds for 15 samples)

NOW includes RNA Clean-up columns: Kit box III *new*

The **C&E version (more convenience and higher efficiency)** of the ExpressArt® TR*inucleotide* mRNA amplification Nano kit is suitable for a wide range, from 1 ng to 700 ng of input total RNA. According to the amount of input total RNA and the required yields of aRNA, it can be used for 1-round (input ≥ 300 ng total RNA) or 2-rounds (minimal input amount 1 ng total RNA), with aRNA yields in the range of $>10 \mu\text{g}$.

AmpTec's proprietary TR*inucleotide* priming technology results in preferential amplification of mRNAs (independent of the universal eukaryotic 3'-poly(A)-sequence), combined with selection against rRNAs.

This protocol provides the required laboratory procedures

Extended manuals
with additional information about ExpressArt
technology are available at
www.amp-tec.com

Content Kit box I (C&E TRinucleotide Nano kit)

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| Tube 1: | Primer TR | 24 µl |
| Tube 2: | dNTP-Mix | 120.0 µl |
| Tube 3: | DEPC-H ₂ O | 1500 µl |
| Tube 4: | 5x RT Buffer | 200.0 µl |
| Tube 5: | RNase Inhibitor | 24.0 µl |
| Tube 6: | RT Enzyme | 24.0 µl |
| Tube 7: | RNase | 15.0 µl |
| Tube 8: | Primer B | 38.0 µl |
| Tube 9: | 5x Extender Buffer | 200.0 µl |
| Tube 10: | Polymerase buffer | 360.0 µl |
| Tube 11: | Primer Erase | 15.0 µl |
| Tube 12: | Primer C | 190.0 µl |
| Tube 13: | Extender Enzyme B | 15.0 µl |
| Tube 14: | Carrier DNA | 60.0 µl |
| Tube 15: | EMPTY: not required | --- |
| Tube 16: | EMPTY: not required | --- |
| Tube 17: | Positive Control RNA | 15.0 µl |
| Tube 18: | NTP-Mix | 198.0 µl |
| Tube 19: | 10x Transcription Buffer | 51.0 µl |
| Tube 20: | RNA Polymerase | 51.0 µl |
| Tube 21: | DNase I | 15.0 µl |
| Tube 22: | Polymerase A | 48.0 µl |
| Tube 23: | Polymerase B | 12.0 µl |
| Tube 24: | Polymerase C | 12.0 µl |

Content Kit box II

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| cDNA Purification Spin Columns | 30 pcs |
| Collection Tubes | 30 pcs |
| Binding Buffer | 7.5 ml |
| Washing Buffer (salt concentrate) | 4 ml |
| Elution Buffer | 10 ml |

Content Kit box III *new*

| | |
|---|--------|
| RNA Purification Spin Columns | 30 pcs |
| Collection Tubes | 30 pcs |
| RNA LB Buffer | 15 ml |
| RNA DeS Buffer | 5 ml |
| RNA Washing Buffer WB1 (salt concentrate) | 12 ml |
| RNA Washing Buffer WB2 (salt concentrate) | 4 ml |
| RNase-free water | 5 ml |

Storage

Immediately upon arrival:

Store **Kit box I** at **-20°C**. Avoid repeated freeze thawing.

Kit box II and box III are stored at room temperature.

Reagents are stable for a minimum of 6 months.

Additionally required materials

- Thermocycler. All reactions, apart from the overnight *in vitro* transcription (see below) can be performed in a standard thermocycler (with the lid temperature adjusted to 110°C).
- **Optional:** Hybridisation oven. We strongly recommend using an air incubator for performing overnight *in vitro* transcription reactions at 37°C. Alternatively, a thermocycler with adjustable heating lid can be used (lid temperature adjusted to 45°C).
- RNase-free pipette-tips (filter-tips recommended)
- RNase-free PCR and reaction tubes (0.2 / 0.5 / 1.5 ml)
- 100% Ethanol
- Microcentrifuge

Positive control

The ExpressArt[®] TR*inucleotide* mRNA amplification Kit contains total RNA as positive control (100 ng/μl) (**Tube 17**).

Chemical hazards

The Binding Buffer (**box II**) contains guanidine thiocyanate, which is harmful in contact with skin, when inhaled or swallowed. Guanidine thiocyanate also liberates toxic gas, when mixed with strong acids. Always store and use the Binding Buffer away from food. Always wear gloves, and follow standard safety precautions during handling and make sure to comply with the safety rules of your laboratory.

Quality control

All components of the kit are tested in an amplification using the Positive Control RNA (**Tube 17**, provided with the kit). All reagents are tested for the absence of nuclease activity.

DETAILED PROTOCOL

A: First Amplification Round

Notes:

- RNA should be purified with a spin column kit, e.g. ExpressArt RNAreedy (from AmpTec, Cat.-No. 9001-A100), RNeasy (from Qiagen), or equivalent, to remove small RNAs (tRNAs and 5S rRNAs) that interfere by acting as primers and possibly as templates.
- RNA must be free of any genomic DNA. The *TRinucleotide* kits are extremely sensitive to contaminating DNA fragments. A DNase treatment should be combined with a spin column purification to remove all fragments of digested DNA.
- Program a thermocycler with the temperatures and times, given in this protocol. See “Thermocycler profiles”.
- Range of input total RNA for the **TRinucleotide Nano kit** with 2 amplification rounds: 1 ng to 700 ng.
- Also available: **TRinucleotide Micro kit** (Cat.-No. 6199-A30) with 1 amplification round for higher amounts in the range of 300 ng to 3 µg.
- Also available: **TRinucleotide Pico kit** (Cat.-No. 6399-A15) with 3 amplification rounds for very low amounts below 1 ng.
- If running more than one reaction at a time, prepare **Master Mixes**.
- **Positive Control.** To check the amplification performance, a reaction tube containing Positive Control RNA (provided at 100 ng/µl, **Tube 17**) should be processed in parallel.

A1. First strand cDNA synthesis

Use the first thermocycler program for step A1.

Prepare First Strand cDNA Synthesis **Mix 1**. Use an appropriate Master mix volume for processing multiple samples.

| First Strand cDNA Synthesis <u>Mix 1</u> | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 2.4 µl |
| dNTP-Mix | Tube 2 | 0.8 µl |
| Primer TR | Tube 1 | 0.8 µl |

Add 4 µl **Mix 1** to 4 µl of each RNA (and to the optional negative control).

Incubate 4 minutes at 65°C in a thermocycler **(with heating lid! use standard setting, e.g. 110°C)**

Cool samples to 37°C.

In the meantime, prepare the First Strand cDNA Synthesis **Mix 2** at room temperature.

| First Strand cDNA Synthesis <u>Mix 2</u> | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 3.2 µl |
| 5x RT Buffer | Tube 4 | 3.2 µl |
| RNase Inhibitor | Tube 5 | 0.8 µl |
| RT Enzyme | Tube 6 | 0.8 µl |

Add the First Strand cDNA Synthesis **Mix 2** (8 µl) to each sample and mix well.

Incubate the samples in a thermocycler:

37°C / 45 min

45°C / 15 min

50°C / 5 min

70°C / 10 min

4°C / HOLD

Remove samples from the thermocycler, centrifuge the tubes briefly and put the tubes on ice. **Proceed immediately with step A2.**

A2. Template DNA synthesis

Use the second thermocycler program for step A2.

On ice prepare the second strand DNA synthesis mix (**Mix 3**) in the given order in a 1.5 ml reaction tube.

| Second Strand DNA Synthesis <u>Mix 3</u> | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 73.0 µl |
| Polymerase-Buffer | Tube 10 | 24.0 µl |
| dNTP-Mix | Tube 2 | 2.4 µl |
| Polymerase A | Tube 22 | 3.2 µl |
| Polymerase B | Tube 23 | 0.8 µl |
| Polymerase C | Tube 24 | 0.8 µl |

On ice, add 104 µl of **Mix 3** to the first strand reaction. Mix gently by pipetting.

Continue incubations: 16°C / 2 h

(**NOTE:** with heating lid switched off! If your thermocycler does not have this option, do not close the heating lid).

Remove samples from thermocycler, put on ice.

Spin to collect liquid and immediately continue with purification of the Template DNA (step A3).

A3. Purification of Template DNA with Spin Columns

Before starting, add 16 ml of 100% ethanol to the 4 ml Washing Buffer concentrate (Kit box II) and mix well.

| Purification <u>Mix 4</u> | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Binding Buffer | (box II) | 244 µl |
| Carrier DNA | Tube 14 | 2 µl |

- Add 246 µl of **Mix 4** to each **Template DNA Reaction** (120 µl from step A2). Mix gently by pipetting.
- Insert DNA Purification Spin Columns in Collection Tubes.
- Pipette the **entire sample** onto each column and centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm in a table top centrifuge. (**Note:** guanidine thiocyanate in the **Binding Buffer** is an irritant. Always wear gloves and follow standard safety precautions to minimise contact when handling).
- Discard the flow-through and re-insert the columns in the same Collection Tubes. Add 200 µl **Washing Buffer** (with Ethanol added) to the columns and centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm.
- Discard the flow-through, re-insert the columns in the same Collection Tubes and wash again with 200 µl **Washing Buffer**. Centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm. Discard the flow-through and the Collection Tubes.
- Insert the columns in fresh 1.5 ml reaction tubes and add 10 µl of **Elution Buffer** to the columns (make sure to pipette the Elution Buffer exactly in the middle of the column, directly on top of the matrix, without disturbing the matrix with the pipette tip). Incubate the column for at least 2 min, then centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm.
- The purified template DNA (approximately 8 µl) is now ready for in vitro transcription (step A4).
- Alternatively, store the samples at –20°C for later use.

A4. Amplification via *in vitro* Transcription

| In vitro-Transcription <u>Mix 5</u> | | |
|--|---------|--------|
| NTP-Mix | Tube 18 | 6.6 µl |
| 10x Buffer | Tube 19 | 1.7 µl |
| RNA-Polymerase | Tube 20 | 1.7 µl |

- Prepare the *in vitro*-Transcription **Mix 5** by adding the components in the given order. **Work at room temperature**, never on ice, because spermidine in the buffer can cause precipitation of the template DNA.
- Add 10 µl in vitro-Transcription **Mix 5** to template DNA (from A3).
- Incubate the transcription overnight at 37°C in a thermocycler with heating lid adjusted to 45°C; or preferentially in a hybridisation oven. **Do not use a thermocycler WITHOUT adjustable heating lid, because high lid temperature (usually >100°C) will negatively affect the efficiency of the transcription reaction!**
- Add 1 µl DNase (**Tube 21**) to each reaction, mix thoroughly and incubate further at 37°C for 15 min.
- Continue with purification of amplified RNA (step A5).

A5. aRNA-Purification using RNA spin columns

Note: Add 6 ml of 100% ethanol to WB1 (12 ml), and 16 ml of 100% ethanol to WB2 (4 ml), as indicated on the bottles.

At the start: Put RNase-free water in thermoblock at 95°C.

| aRNA Purification <u>Mix 6</u> | |
|--|--------|
| RNA LB Buffer (box III) | 340 µl |
| RNA DeS Buffer (box III) | 87 µl |
| 100% Ethanol (at room temperature; not supplied) | 560 µl |

- Add 987 µl of **Mix 6** to each **in vitro Transcription Reaction**. Mix thoroughly.
- Transfer an aliquot of **700 µl of this mixture** on the RNA spin column, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Transfer the **remaining mixture** on column, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Add 500 µl **Wash Buffer 1 (WB 1)**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Add 500 µl **Wash Buffer 2 (WB 2)**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Re-insert the column in the same collection tube. Add 500 µl **80% EtOH**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Re-insert the column in the same collection tube, and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed to get rid of residual salt on the spin column matrix.
- **Elution:** Transfer column in fresh 1.5 ml reaction tube and add 30 µl **RNase-free water** (preheated at 95°C)
- Incubate: 2 min and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed
- Reapply the eluate on the column
- Incubate: 2 min and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed
- RNA is in a total volume of ~ 30 µl. Use amplified RNA for 2nd amplification round (section B) or store at -80°C.

A6. Control of aRNA product quantity and quality

General suggestions for the second amplification round:

If input RNA amounts below 50 ng were used, the maximum volume of 25 µl aRNA is used for the second amplification round.

Photometric quantification:

Note: The in vitro transcription reactions are performed with very high NTP concentrations (30 mM total) and these NTP's are not removed 100% by RNA clean-up with spin columns.

In consequence: measurements with negative control reactions may indicate – erroneous - values of up to approximately 1.5 µg. The presence of RNA strongly competes and prevents this "background binding" of NTP's, and this means, calculated yields of ≥ 2 µg are a reliable indication of RNA amounts. A correlation with electrophoretic results (bioanalyzer or agarose gel) is recommended.

If **>50 ng of input total RNA** were used, the expected yields of amplified RNA are ≥ 2 µg.

If an **additional second amplification round** (see section B) is required, a maximum 0.8 µg of amplified RNA can be used – RNA yields should be confirmed by electrophoresis.

Quality Control with Agilent 2100 bioanalyzer:

Note: All ionic compounds interfere with capillary electrophoresis. The RNA size distribution can be monitored with the bioanalyzer, but quantitation may indicate too low RNA amounts, because the signal may be significantly compressed by residual and variable buffer/salt concentrations in the eluted RNAs. For maximum sensitivity and more consistent quantifications, removal of buffer/salt by ethanol precipitation is recommended.

For amplified RNA, a broad size distribution is expected and an RNA concentration >50 ng/µl is recommended for the Agilent RNA 6000 Nano kit (lower concentrations are possible for total RNA, due to the prominent rRNA peaks).

B: Second Amplification Round

Amplified RNA is again reverse transcribed into cDNA to produce high yields of aRNA via a 2nd round of amplification.

For generation of **labelled antisense RNA**, use the template DNA (see below, steps B4-B6) for *in vitro* transcription with an RNA labelling kit.

B1. First strand cDNA synthesis

RNA yields should be determined by photometric and electrophoretic measurements (see step A6).

We recommend to use approximately 200 ng amplified RNA from the first amplification round (a maximum volume of 25 µl of aRNA from step A5). Please do not use more than 800 ng of amplified RNA.

Use Third thermocycler program for step B1-B2.

| First Strand cDNA Synthesis <u>Mix 2-1</u> | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| dNTP-Mix | Tube 2 | 2.5 µl |
| Primer B | Tube 8 | 2.5 µl |

Add 5 µl Mix 2-1 to 25 µl of each RNA (for smaller volumes, adjust with water to a reaction volume of 30 µl).

Incubate 4 minutes at 65°C in a thermocycler **(with heating lid! use standard setting, e.g. 110°C)**

Cool samples to 37°C.

In the meantime, prepare the First Strand cDNA Synthesis Mix 2-2 at room temperature.

| First Strand cDNA Synthesis <u>Mix 2-2</u> | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 8.4 µl |
| 5x RT Buffer | Tube 4 | 10.0 µl |
| RNase Inhibitor | Tube 5 | 0.8 µl |
| RT Enzyme | Tube 6 | 0.8 µl |

Add the First Strand cDNA Synthesis Mix 2-2 (20 µl) to each

sample and mix well by gently flicking the tube.

Incubate the samples in a thermocycler:

37°C / 45 min

45°C / 15 min

50°C / 5 min

37°C / HOLD

| Primer Erase <u>Mix 2-3</u> | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 3 µl |
| 5x Extender Buffer | Tube 9 | 1 µl |
| Primer Erase | Tube 11 | 1 µl |

Then add 5 µl Primer Erase Mix 2-3, and continue incubations:

37°C / 5 min

80°C / 15 min

37°C / HOLD

| RNase <u>Mix 2-4</u> | | |
|-----------------------|--------|------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 3 µl |
| 5x Extender Buffer | Tube 9 | 1 µl |
| RNase | Tube 7 | 1 µl |

Add 5 µl of RNase Mix 2-4 to First Strand cDNA Reaction.

Incubate 20 minutes at 37°C.

B2. Template DNA synthesis

| Second Strand cDNA Synthesis <u>Mix 2-5</u> | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 25,0 µl |
| 5x Extender Buffer | Tube 9 | 10,0 µl |
| Primer C | Tube 12 | 12.5 µl |
| dNTP-Mix | Tube 2 | 2.5 µl |

Add 50 µl of **Mix 2-5** to each First Strand cDNA Synthesis Reaction and incubate as follows in a thermocycler:

96°C / 1 min

37°C / 1 min

| Extender Enzyme B <u>Mix 2-6</u> | | |
|---|---------|------|
| DEPC-H ₂ O | Tube 3 | 3 µl |
| 5x Extender Buffer | Tube 9 | 1 µl |
| Extender Enzyme B | Tube 13 | 1 µl |

Add 5 µl of Extender Enzyme B **Mix 2-6** to each sample and mix well by gently flicking the tube. Continue the incubation:

37°C / 30 min

65°C / 15 min

4°C / HOLD

After incubation, place tubes on ice. **Proceed to step B3.**

B3. Purification of Template DNA with Spin Columns

| Purification <u>Mix 2-7</u> | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Binding Buffer | (box II) | 234 µl |
| Carrier DNA | Tube 14 | 2 µl |

- Add 236 µl of **Mix 2-7** to each **Template DNA Reaction** (115 µl from step B2). Mix gently by pipetting.
- Insert DNA Purification Spin Columns in Collection Tubes.
- Pipette the **entire sample** onto each column and centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm in a table top centrifuge. (**Note:** guanidine thiocyanate in the **Binding Buffer** is an

irritant. Always wear gloves and follow standard safety precautions to minimise contact when handling).

- Discard the flow-through and re-insert the columns in the same Collection Tubes. Add 200 µl **Washing Buffer** (with Ethanol added) to the columns and centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm.
- Discard the flow-through, re-insert the columns in the same Collection Tubes and wash again with 200 µl **Washing Buffer**. Centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm. Discard the flow-through and the Collection Tubes.
- Insert the columns in fresh 1.5 ml reaction tubes and add 10 µl of **Elution Buffer** to the columns (make sure to pipette the Elution Buffer exactly in the middle of the column, directly on top of the matrix, without disturbing the matrix with the pipette tip). Incubate the column for at least 2 min, then centrifuge for 1 min at 10,000 rpm.
- The purified template DNA (approximately 8 µl) is now ready for in vitro transcription (see steps B4 and B5).
- **Optional:** Use 10% of the template DNA for an in vitro transcription "test reaction" for determining expected yields and size distribution (see step A6).
- Alternatively, store the samples at –20°C for later use.

B4. Four Options for Microarray Applications

At this stage, there are **4 options** for subsequent in vitro transcription reactions.

Option 1) If you have used the **AT-Micro Add-On Module (Cat.-No. 2010-A15)** for the generation of **Archival Templates**, use the template DNA obtained in step B3 (see **step AT-1** in the AT Module for necessary changes in the Core kit protocol) to generate immobilised template DNA (**step AT-2**) for solid phase in vitro transcription (**step AT-3**). This allows you to determine yields and qualities of amplified RNAs and the recovered template can be used for a second in vitro

transcription that includes the appropriate NTP-mixes for labelled RNA (see options in step AT-3).

Additional suggestion: If you did not use the **AT-Module**, you may use 10% of the template DNA for an in vitro transcription "test reaction" for determining expected yields and size distribution (see steps A5-A7).

Additional use of unlabelled RNA: it can be converted to cDNAs for performing multiple qPCR assays (see protocol at www.amp-tec.com).

Note: Reagents for in vitro transcriptions with unmodified NTPs are included in the kit. Purification of amplified RNAs can be performed with RNA Clean-up reagents and columns (kit Box III), or equivalent.

Option 2) For Affymetrix gene expression microarrays, use the template DNA (from **step B3**) for in vitro transcription with the ENZO Bioarray High Yield RNA Transcript Labelling Kit (or equivalent), following the manufacturer's instructions.

Option 3) For Affymetrix Whole Transcript microarrays (Exon Arrays & Gene Arrays) use the template DNA (from **step B3**) for standard in vitro transcription (steps B5, B6) to prepare and purify unmodified, amplified RNA: required yields for WT arrays are at least 7 µg.

Then, use Affymetrix kits to generate labelled WT Double-Stranded DNA: Follow the Affymetrix GeneChip® Whole Transcript (WT) Double-Stranded Target Assay Manual, Chapter 3 "Target Preparation for Model Organisms, Single Tiling Arrays (No Amplification)".

Use the GeneChip® WT Double-Stranded cDNA Synthesis Kit (Affymetrix # 900813) and the GeneChip® WT Double-Stranded DNA Terminal Labeling Kit (Affymetrix # 900812) and Sample Cleanup Module (Affymetrix # 900371).

Option 4) Dye-labelled amplified RNAs: Use the template DNA (**step B3**) for in vitro transcription with the ExpressArt **Amino-Allyl Labelling Module** (Cat.-No. 2000-A15 for 15 samples). Supplementary reagents are provided for obtaining amino-allyl-labelled amplified RNAs and their conversion to purified, dye-coupled and fragmented RNAs, ready for microarray hybridisations (the required NHS-activated Dye-derivatives **are not included**).

B5. Amplification via *in vitro* Transcription

RNA Labelling for microarray hybridisations: **see options in section B4.**

Unlabelled RNA can be converted to cDNAs for performing multiple qPCR assays (see protocol at www.amp-tec.com).

| <u>In vitro-Transcription Mix 5</u> | | |
|--|---------|--------|
| NTP-Mix | Tube 18 | 6.6 µl |
| 10x Buffer | Tube 19 | 1.7 µl |
| T7 RNA Polymerase | Tube 20 | 1.7 µl |

- Prepare the *in vitro*-Transcription Mix by adding the components in the given order. **Work at room temperature**, never on ice, because spermidine in the buffer can cause precipitation of DNA template.
- Add 10 µl *in vitro*-Transcription **Mix 5** to template DNA (from B3).
- Incubate the transcription overnight at 37°C in a thermocycler with heating lid adjusted to 45°C; or preferentially in a hybridisation oven.
- **Do not use a thermocycler WITHOUT adjustable heating lid, because high lid temperature (usually >100°C) will negatively affect the efficiency of the transcription reaction!**
- Continue with purification of amplified RNA (step B6).

B6. aRNA-Purification using RNA spin columns

Note: Add 6 ml of 100% ethanol to WB1 (12 ml), and 16 ml of 100% ethanol to WB2 (4 ml), as indicated on the bottles.

At the start: Put RNase-free water in thermoblock at 95°C.

| aRNA Purification <u>Mix 6</u> | |
|--|--------|
| RNA LB Buffer (box III) | 340 µl |
| RNA DeS Buffer (box III) | 87 µl |
| 100% Ethanol (at room temperature; not supplied) | 560 µl |

- Add 987 µl of **Mix 6** to each **in vitro Transcription Reaction**. Mix thoroughly.
- Transfer an aliquot of **700 µl of this mixture** on the RNA spin column, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Transfer the **remaining mixture** on column, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Add 500 µl **Wash Buffer 1 (WB 1)**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Add 500 µl **Wash Buffer 2 (WB 2)**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Re-insert the column in the same collection tube. Add 500 µl **80% EtOH**, centrifuge for 30 sec@10'000 rpm & discard flow-through
- Re-insert the column in the same collection tube, and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed to get rid of residual salt on the spin column matrix.
- **Elution:** Transfer column in fresh 1.5 ml reaction tube and add 30 µl **RNase-free water** (preheated at 95°C)
- Incubate: 2 min and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed
- Reapply the eluate on the column
- Incubate: 2 min and centrifuge for 1 min@maximum speed
- RNA is in a total volume of ~ 30 µl.
Use amplified RNA immediately or store at -80°C.

Expected yields of amplified RNA

| Input total RNA | RNA-a1 1 st round | RNA-a2 2 nd round |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 200 ng | 4 ± 2 µg | with <u>200 ng*</u> RNA-a1: 50 ± 20 µg |
| 100 ng | 2 ± 1 µg | with <u>200 ng*</u> RNA-a1: 50 ± 20 µg |
| 50 ng | 1 ± 0.3 µg | with <u>200 ng*</u> RNA-a1: 50 ± 20 µg |
| 10 ng | 200 ± 50 ng* | using <u>all of</u> RNA-a1: 50 ± 20 µg |
| ≤ 1 ng | 20 ± 10 ng* | using <u>all of</u> RNA-a1: 10 ± 5 µg |

* **Note:** Please see step A6 for combined photometric and electrophoretic measurements.

Thermocycler profiles

Before starting the ExpressArt[®] TR*inucleotide* mRNA amplification kit protocol, program a thermocycler with the following temperatures and times. HOLD steps are included to provide time for thermal ramping or for adding reagents.

First Amplification round

| First thermocycler program for step A1 for 1st Amplification round | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Step | Temperature | Time | Action |
| 1 | 65°C | HOLD | Start of first cDNA synthesis Add 4µl RNA to 4µl Mix 1 |
| 2 | 65°C | 4 min | |
| 3 | 37°C | 1 min | |
| 4 | 37°C | HOLD | add 8µl Mix 2 |
| 5 | 37°C | 45 min | |
| 6 | 45°C | 15 min | |
| 7 | 50°C | 5 min | |
| 8 | 70°C | 10 min | |
| 9 | 4°C | HOLD | Put samples on ice and continue with second thermocycler program for step A2. |

| Second thermocycler program for step A2 for 1st Amplification round | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| NOTE: heating lid is switched off. | | | |
| Step | Temperature | Time | Action |
| 1 | 16°C | HOLD | Add 104µl Mix 3 |
| 2 | 16°C | 2 h | |
| 3 | 4°C | HOLD | |
| End of Template DNA synthesis Spin to collect liquid Continue with DNA purification | | | |

Required time: appr. 3.5 h

Second Amplification round

| Third thermocycler program for steps B1-B2 <i>For 2nd Amplification Round</i> | | | |
|---|-------------|--------|---|
| Step | Temperature | Time | Action |
| 1 | 65°C | HOLD | Start of first cDNA synthesis Add 25µl RNA-a1 to 5µl Mix 2-1 |
| 2 | 65°C | 4 min | |
| 3 | 37°C | 1 min | |
| 4 | 37°C | HOLD | add 20µl <u>Mix 2-2</u> |
| 5 | 37°C | 45 min | |
| 6 | 45°C | 15 min | |
| 7 | 50°C | 5 min | |
| 8 | 37°C | 1 min | |
| 9 | 37°C | HOLD | add 5µl <u>Mix 2-3</u> |
| 10 | 37°C | 5 min | |
| 11 | 80°C | 15 min | |
| 12 | 37°C | 1 min | |
| 13 | 37°C | HOLD | add 5µl <u>Mix 2-4</u> |
| 14 | 37°C | 20 min | |
| 15 | 37°C | HOLD | add 50µl <u>Mix 2-5</u> |
| 16 | 96°C | 1 min | |
| 17 | 37°C | 1 min | |
| 18 | 37°C | HOLD | add 5µl <u>Mix 2-6</u> |
| 19 | 37°C | 30 min | |
| 20 | 65°C | 15 min | |
| 21 | 4°C | HOLD | |
| End of Template DNA synthesis Spin to collect liquid Continue with DNA purification | | | |

Required time: appr. 2.8 h

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