# **INSTRUCTIONS**

# Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer

# <u>84731 84742</u>

Number	Description
84731	Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer, 1L
84742	Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer, 200mL

**Storage:** Upon receipt store at room temperature. Product is shipped at ambient temperature.

### Introduction

The Thermo Scientific<sup>TM</sup> Pierce<sup>TM</sup> 1-Step Transfer Buffer is used with the Thermo Scientific Pierce G2 Fast Blotter to transfer proteins from SDS-PAGE gels to nitrocellulose or PVDF membranes in 5-10 minutes.

## Procedure

**Note:** This procedure is optimized for the following precast gels: Thermo Scientific Precise Protein, Precise<sup>TM</sup> Tris-Glycine, NuPAGE<sup>TM</sup> Bis-Tris, Criterion<sup>TM</sup> Tris-HCl and Mini-PROTEAN<sup>TM</sup> TGX Gels. Gel types not in this list may require further optimization.

#### A. Additional Materials Required

- Western blotting filter paper (~0.83mm thick) cut-to-size
- Transfer membrane cut-to-size
- Pierce G2 Fast Blotter Control Unit and Cassette

#### B. Transfer Protein from Gel to Membrane

1. Equilibrate filter paper and membrane in undiluted 1-Step Transfer Buffer for 10 minutes with gentle rocking. For each gel, use four sheets of ~0.83mm thick Western Blotting filter paper and one sheet of nitrocellulose or PVDF membrane cut to same size.

Note: Use ~50mL of transfer buffer for one mini-gel and ~100mL for one midi-gel size filter paper and membrane.

Note: PVDF membranes must be pre-wetted with methanol or ethanol before equilibrating in transfer buffer.

2. After electrophoresis, remove gel from cassette(s) and briefly place in a tray containing deionized water or transfer buffer. This will ensure even wetting, facilitate proper gel placement and improve contact with the membrane.

Note: Do not wash the gel in water after electrophoresis.

Assemble blot directly on anode plate of the Cassette as described in Figure 1. Eliminate air bubbles between gel and membrane with a roller or clean pipette.



Figure 1. Side view of transfer sandwich.



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3. Using the Pierce G2 Fast Blotter Control Unit and Cassette, transfer protein from gel to membrane using continuous amperage (~21mA/cm<sup>2</sup>) for 5-10 minutes (Table 1).

	Surface	Constant	t Voltage	Recommended Transfer Time (minutes)		
Gel Size	Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Current (A)	Limit (V)	Low MW	Mixed MW	High MW
1 mini-sized gel	~60	1.3	25	5	7	10
2 mini-sized gels or 1 midi-sized gel	~120	2.5	25	5	7	10
3 mini-sized gels	~180	3.8	25	5	7	10
4 mini-sized gels or 2 midi-sized gels	~240	5.0	25	5	7	10

#### Table 1. Power supply settings for different gel sizes.

**Note:** For gels thicker than 1mm or homemade gel formulations, add 2 minutes of transfer time for low, mixed or high MW proteins.

4. Remove and rinse the membrane with deionized water and proceed to protein detection.

## Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Inefficient transfer	Salt deposited on electrodes	Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer is a highly concentrated salt solution. Thoroughly wash the anode and cathode after each use and rinse the unassembled cassette under hot water while removing any sticky salt residue with a gloved hand. Briefly rinse with deionized water and stand in a rack to dry. For more thorough cleaning, immerse the cassette top and bottom in hot water and use a gloved hand or clean sponge to remove salt residue. Rinse with deionized water and stand in a rack to dry
		<b>Note:</b> Failure to keep cassette top and bottom clean can result in moving parts sticking and lead to poor transfer efficiency
	Membrane or filter paper was insufficiently equilibrated in Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer	Equilibrate membrane and filter paper in Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer before transfer. Use sufficient amount of buffer for the equilibration step
	Insufficient transfer time	Increase transfer time from 7-10 minutes to 10-12 minutes
	PVDF membrane was not pre-wetted with methanol	Wet PVDF membrane with methanol or ethanol and equilibrate for 10-15 minutes in Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer before transfer
Inconsistent transfer	Air bubbles trapped between gel and membrane	When assembling sandwich, use a roller or pipette to remove any air bubbles between the gel and the membrane
Inefficient transfer of low molecular-weight proteins to PVDF	Inefficient binding of some low molecular-weight proteins (< 25kDa) to PVDF membrane	Combine ethanol and Pierce 1-Step Transfer Buffer in a 15:85 ratio before equilibrating filter paper and membrane



#### **Related Thermo Scientific Products**

84783	Western Blotting Filter Paper, 7cm $ imes$ 8.4cm, 0.83mm thickness
84784	Western Blotting Filter Paper, 8cm $ imes$ 13.5cm, 0.83mm thickness
88600	Western Blotting Filter Paper, 8cm $ imes$ 10.5cm, 0.83mm thickness
84747	Western Blot Roller
88018	Nitrocellulose Membrane, 0.45µm, 30cm × 3.5m roll
88518	PVDF Transfer Membrane, 0.45µm, 26.5cm × 3.75m roll
62236	MYECL <sup>TM</sup> Imager
62237	MyImageAnalysis <sup>TM</sup> Software
26616	<b>PageRuler<sup>TM</sup> Prestained Protein Ladder, 10-170kDa,</b> $2 \times 250 \mu L$
32106	Pierce ECL Western Blotting Substrate
34080	SuperSignal <sup>TM</sup> West Pico Chemiluminescent Substrate

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