

#### EXPRESS One-Step SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> Kits

For one-step qRT-PCR using EXPRESS SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> qPCR SuperMixes

Catalog nos. 11780-200, 11780-01K, 11790-200, and 11790-01K

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**User Manual** 

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#### **Kit Contents and Storage**

Kit	EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> Kits are shipped on
Components	dry ice. The components in each kit are listed below.
and Storage	<b>Storage:</b> Store all components at -20°C for long-term storage. EXPRESS qPCR SuperMixes may be stored at 4-8°C

for up to one month.

EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> Universal	11780-200	11780-01K
EXPRESS SYBR® GreenER™ qPCR SuperMix Universal	5 ml	5 × 5 ml
ROX Reference Dye	500 µl	$5 \times 500 \ \mu l$
EXPRESS SuperScript <sup>®</sup> Mix for One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup>	250 µl	$5 \times 250 \ \mu l$
EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> with Premixed ROX	11790-200	11790-01K
1	<b>11790-200</b> 5 ml	<b>11790-01K</b> 5 × 5 ml

Product Qualification The Certificate of Analysis (CofA) provides detailed quality control information for each product. The CofA is available on our website at <u>www.invitrogen.com/cofa</u>, and is searchable by product lot number, which is printed on each box.

#### Overview

**Introduction** EXPRESS One-Step SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> Kits provide components for one-step reverse transcription and real-time quantitative PCR (qRT-PCR) in a convenient format that is compatible with both rapid and standard qPCR cycling conditions. The one-step format allows cDNA synthesis and PCR in a single tube using gene-specific primers and either total RNA or mRNA.

The RT mix includes SuperScript<sup>®</sup> III Reverse Transcriptase and RNaseOUT<sup>™</sup> Recombinant Ribonuclease Inhibitor in an optimized formulation. All EXPRESS SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> qPCR SuperMixes include Platinum<sup>®</sup> *Taq* DNA polymerase, SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> fluorescent dye, MgCl<sub>2</sub>, uracil DNA glycosylase (UDG), dNTPs (with dUTP instead of dTTP), and stabilizers. Note that this unique one-step formulation includes a special heat-labile form of UDG in the SuperMix to help prevent reamplification of carryover PCR products between reactions.

- **SuperMix with Premixed ROX:** The qPCR SuperMix with premixed ROX includes ROX Reference Dye at a final concentration of 500 nM to normalize the fluorescent signal on instruments that are compatible with this option.
- Universal SuperMix: The Universal SuperMix includes ROX as a separate component for instruments that use ROX at a different concentration or do not require ROX.

#### **Overview**, continued

Advantages of the Kits	• This highly robust one-step formulation provides optimal convenience and sensitivity in qRT-PCR, with sensitive detection and a broad quantification range		
	• SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> dye in this formulation provides higher sensitivity and lower PCR inhibition than other fluorescent double-stranded DNA binding dyes		
	• SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III Reverse Transcriptase has been engineered for reduced RNase H activity and increased thermal stability, for higher yields of cDNA		
	• <b>Platinum</b> <sup>®</sup> <i>Taq</i> <b>DNA</b> <i>Polymerase</i> provides an automatic "hot start" in PCR for increased sensitivity, specificity, and yield, and has a short activation time for the rapid cycling of fast qPCR instruments		
	• A special heat-labile form of UDG in the SuperMix prevents amplification of carryover PCR products between one-step reactions		
SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> Fluorescent Dye	SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> fluorescent dye is a double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) binding dye that, in this formulation, provides higher sensitivity and lower PCR inhibition than SYBR <sup>®</sup> Green I dye. It can be used on real-time PCR instruments calibrated for SYBR <sup>®</sup> Green I dye without any change of filters or settings. In qPCR, as dsDNA accumulates, SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> dye generates a fluorescent signal that is proportional to the DNA concentration (Ishiguro <i>et al.</i> , 1995; Wittwer <i>et al.</i> , 1997).		
SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III Reverse Transcriptase	SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III Reverse Transcriptase is a version of M-MLV RT that has been engineered to reduce RNase H activity and provide increased thermal stability for higher yields of cDNA (Kotewicz <i>et al.</i> , 1985). The enzyme in this RT mix formulation can synthesize cDNA at a temperature range of 50–60°C. Because SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III RT is not significantly inhibited by ribosomal and transfer RNA, it can be used to synthesize cDNA from total RNA.		
	RNaseOUT <sup>™</sup> Ribonuclease Inhibitor is included in the SuperScript <sup>®</sup> mix to safeguard against degradation of target RNA due to ribonuclease contamination.		

#### **Overview**, continued

Platinum <sup>®</sup> <i>Taq</i> DNA Polymerase	Platinum <sup>®</sup> <i>Taq</i> DNA Polymerase is recombinant <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase complexed with proprietary antibodies that block polymerase activity at ambient temperatures (Chou <i>et al.</i> , 1992; Sharkey <i>et al.</i> , 1994). Activity is restored after the initial denaturation step in PCR cycling, providing an automatic hot start in qPCR for increased sensitivity, specificity, and yield.	
Uracil DNA Glycosylase (UDG)	UDG and dUTP in the qPCR SuperMix prevent the reamplification of carryover PCR products between reactions (Lindahl <i>et al.</i> , 1977; Longo <i>et al.</i> , 1990). dUTP ensures that any amplified DNA will contain uracil, while UDG removes uracil residues from single- or double-stranded DNA.	
	The UDG used in the kit is a heat-labile form of the enzyme that destroys any contaminating dU-containing product from previous reactions prior to cDNA synthesis. This UDG is inactivated at temperatures of 50°C or higher, thereby allowing cDNA synthesis from genuine target sequences when used with a high-temperature RT such as SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III Reverse Transcriptase.	
ROX Reference Dye	ROX Reference Dye is either premixed in the SuperMix or included as a separate tube in the kit to normalize the fluorescent signal between reactions for instruments that are compatible with this option.	
Additional Materials Required	<ul> <li>The following items are supplied by the user:</li> <li>Template RNA</li> <li>Gene-specific primers</li> <li>DEPC-treated water</li> <li>Microcentrifuge</li> <li>Thermal cycler</li> <li>Optional: Normalization dye for instruments that do not use ROX</li> <li>PCR tubes/plates</li> </ul>	

## Instrument Compatibility

Universal Kits	EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> Universal includes ROX Reference Dye as a separate tube, and can be used wit a wide range of real-time instruments including the following:				
	• Applied Biosystems: 7900HT, 7300, 7500, StepOne <sup>™</sup> , StepOnePlus <sup>™</sup> , GeneAmp <sup>®</sup> 5700, and PRISM <sup>®</sup> 7000 and 7700				
	<ul> <li>Bio-Rad/MJ Research: iCycler<sup>®</sup> iQ, iQ5, and MyiQ<sup>™</sup>; DNA Engine Opticon<sup>®</sup> and Opticon<sup>®</sup> 2; and Chromo4<sup>™</sup> Real-Time Detector</li> </ul>				
	• Cepheid: Smart Cycler <sup>®</sup>				
	• <b>Corbett Research:</b> Rotor-Gene <sup>™</sup> 3000				
	• <b>Eppendorf:</b> Mastercycler <sup>®</sup> ep <i>realplex</i>				
	<ul> <li>Roche: LightCycler<sup>®</sup> 480</li> <li>Stratagene: Mx3000P<sup>™</sup>, Mx3005P<sup>™</sup>, and Mx4000<sup>®</sup></li> </ul>				
Kits with Premixed ROX	EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> with Premixed ROX can be used with real-time instruments that are compatible with ROX Reference Dye at a final concentration of 500 nM. These include the following <b>Applied Biosystems</b> instruments:				
	• 7900HT				
	• 7300				
• StepOne <sup>™</sup>					
	• StepOnePlus <sup>™</sup>				
	• GeneAmp <sup>®</sup> 5700				
	• PRISM <sup>®</sup> 7000 and 7700				

## Methods

## **General qRT-PCR Guidelines and Parameters**

Reaction	• Starting material can be total RNA or mRNA.
Setup and Conditions	• These kits use a two-step cycling protocol, with a denaturation step at 95°C and an annealing/extension step at 60°C.
	• Keep all components, reaction mixes and samples <b>on ice</b> to prevent premature cDNA synthesis.
	• Reaction volumes can be scaled from 5 µl to 100 µl, depending on the instrument.
	• For most templates, efficient cDNA synthesis can be accomplished in a 5-minute incubation at 50°C. For problematic templates, or to increase the specificity of cDNA priming, increase the cDNA synthesis temperature up to 60°C.
	• For instrument-specific guidelines, see the section for each type of SuperMix.
Primer Specifications	Gene-specific primers are required for one-step qRT-PCR. We strongly recommend using a primer design program such as OligoPerfect <sup>™</sup> , available on the Web at <u>www.invitrogen.com/oligos</u> , or Vector NTI <sup>™</sup> . In addition to designing primers for optimal efficiency, programs such as this will automatically perform a BLAST search of NCBI databases to ensure that primers are target-specific. The amplicon length should be approximately 80–250 bp, and the primers should be designed to anneal to exons on both sides of an intron or within the exon/exon boundary of
	the target mRNA to allow differentiation of cDNA from genomic DNA.
	A final concentration of 200 nM per primer is effective for most reactions. Optimal results may require a titration of primer concentrations between 100 and 500 nM.
Melting Curve Analysis	Melting curve analysis should always be performed following real-time qPCR to identify the presence of primer dimers and analyze the specificity of the reaction. Program your instrument for melting curve analysis using the instructions provided with your specific instrument.

## Template RNA

Input RNA	Starting material can range from 1 pg to 1 µg of purified total RNA. If you are starting with isolated mRNA, the amount of template may be as low as 0.5 pg. RNA should be free of RNase contamination and aseptic conditions should be maintained. RNA may be treated with amplification- grade DNase I (see page 19) to remove any contaminating genomic DNA. To isolate total RNA, we recommend the PureLink <sup>™</sup> Micro- to-Midi <sup>™</sup> Total RNA Purification System, TRIzol <sup>®</sup> Reagent, or the PureLink <sup>™</sup> 96 Total RNA Purification Kit for high- throughput applications (see page 19 for ordering information).
General Handling of RNA	<ul> <li>When working with RNA:</li> <li>Use disposable, individually wrapped, sterile plasticware.</li> <li>Use aerosol-resistant pipette tips for all procedures.</li> <li>Use only sterile, new pipette tips and microcentrifuge tubes.</li> <li>Wear latex gloves while handling reagents and RNA samples to prevent RNase contamination from the surface of the skin.</li> <li>Use proper microbiological aseptic technique when working with RNA.</li> <li>Dedicate a separate set of pipettes, buffers, and enzymes for RNA work.</li> <li>Use RNase-free microcentrifuge tubes. If it is necessary to decontaminate untreated tubes, soak the tubes overnight in a 0.01% (v/v) aqueous solution of diethylpyrocarbonate (DEPC), rinse the tubes.</li> <li>You can use RNase Away<sup>™</sup> Reagent, a non-toxic solution available from Invitrogen, to remove RNase contamination from surfaces. For further information on controlling RNase contamination, see (Ausubel <i>et al.</i>, 1994; Sambrook <i>et al.</i>, 1989).</li> </ul>

## Template RNA, continued

Determining Total RNA Yield	Total RNA can be quantitated using the Quant-iT <sup>™</sup> RNA Assay Kit or UV absorbance at 260 nm. <b>Quant-iT<sup>™</sup> RNA Assay Kit</b> The Quant-iT <sup>™</sup> RNA Assay Kit provides a rapid, sensitive, and specific method for RNA quantitation with minimal interference from DNA, protein, or other common contaminants that affect UV absorbance readings. The kit contains a quantitation reagent and pre-diluted standards for a standard curve. The assay is performed in a microtiter plate and can be read using a standard fluorescent microplate reader.	
	<ul> <li>UV Absorbance</li> <li>Dilute an aliquot of the total RNA sample in 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5. Mix well. Transfer to a cuvette (1-cm path length).</li> </ul>	
	<b>Note:</b> The RNA must be in a neutral pH buffer to accurately measure the UV absorbance.	
	<ol> <li>Determine the OD<sub>260</sub> of the solution using a spectrophotometer blanked against 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5.</li> </ol>	
	Calculate the amount of total RNA using the following formula:	
	Total RNA ( $\mu$ g) = OD <sub>260</sub> × [40 $\mu$ g/(1 OD <sub>260</sub> × 1 ml)] × dilution factor × total sample volume (ml)	
	<b>Example:</b> Total RNA was eluted in water in a total volume of 150 µl. 40-µl aliquot of the eluate was diluted to 500 µl in 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5. An OD <sub>260</sub> of 0.188 was obtained. The amount of RNA in the sample is: Total RNA (µg) = $0.188 \times [40 \ \mu g/(1 \ OD_{260} \times 1 \ ml)] \times 12.$ $\times 0.15 = 14.1 \ \mu g$	
Determining Total RNA Quality	Total RNA quality can be analyzed using a bioanalyzer such as the Agilent 2100 bioanalyzer with an RNA LabChip <sup>®</sup> . Alternatively, total RNA can be analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis. RNA isolated using the PureLink <sup>™</sup> kits or TRIzol <sup>®</sup> Reagent typically has a 28S-to-18S band ratio of >1.5. RNA is judged to be intact if discreet 28S and 18S ribosomal RNA bands are observed.	

#### **Universal Kits—Guidelines and Protocols**

Introduction	This section provides guidelines and protocols for one-step qRT-PCR using EXPRESS One-Step SYBR® GreenER™ qRT-PCR Universal.			
Additional	The follo	wing items are suj	oplied by the user	:
Materials	• DE	PC-treated water		
Required		ne-specific primers delines)	s (see page 5 for de	esign
	• Mic	crocentrifuge		
	• Thermal cycler (see page 4 for information on compatible thermal cyclers)			
	• PC	R tubes/plates		
ROX Reference Dye Concentration	Universa normaliz optional	erence Dye is supp al Kits. ROX is reco tation on Applied for Stratagene's M . It is not required	mmended for flue Biosystems® instru x3000P™, Mx3005	prescence uments, and is P™, and
	ROX is composed of a glycine conjugate of 5-carboxy-X-rhodamine, succinimidyl ester and is supp at a concentration of 25 μM.			nd is supplied
	Use the following table to determine the amount of $25-\mu M$ ROX to use with a particular instrument:			ount of 25-µM
		Amount of	Effective Fold	Final ROX

Instrument	Amount of ROX per 20-µl reaction	Effective Fold Concentration of 25-µM ROX	Final ROX Concentration
AB 7300, 7900HT, StepOne <sup>™</sup> , StepOnePlus <sup>™</sup> , and PRISM <sup>®</sup> 7000 and 7700	0.4 µl	50X	500 nM
AB 7500; Stratagene Mx3000P <sup>™</sup> , Mx3005P <sup>™</sup> , and Mx4000 <sup>®</sup>	0.04 µl	500X	50 nM

# Universal Kits—Guidelines and Protocols, continued

Fluorescein for Bio-Rad iCycler<sup>®</sup> Instruments Bio-Rad iCycler<sup>®</sup> instruments require the collection of "well factors" before each run to compensate for any instrument or pipetting non-uniformity. Well factors for SYBR<sup>®</sup> GreenER<sup>™</sup> experiments are calculated using an additional fluorophore, fluorescein. Well factors are collected using either a separate plate containing fluorescein in each well (External Well Factors) or the experimental plate with fluorescein spiked into the qPCR master mix (Dynamic Well Factors). You must select the method when you start each run using the iCycler<sup>®</sup>.

Fluorescein is available separately from Bio-Rad, or Fluorescein NIST-Traceable Standard is available from Invitrogen as a 50-µM solution (see page 19 for ordering information).

**External Well Factors:** The Bio-Rad iCycler<sup>®</sup> instruction manual provides instructions on preparing and using the External Well Factor plate. The iCycler<sup>®</sup> will automatically insert a 3-cycle program before your experimental cycling program to perform the External Well Factor reading.

**Note:** The iCycler<sup>®</sup> iQ5 and MyiQ<sup>™</sup> systems allow you to save the data from an External Well Factor reading as a separate file, which can then be referenced for future readings. Select the **Persistent Well Factor** setting when you are entering the cycling program to reference this saved file.

**Dynamic Well Factors**: For Dynamic Well Factor readings, the user must add fluorescein to the qPCR master mix at a final concentration of 10–20 nM. Consult your Bio-Rad iCycler<sup>®</sup> instruction manual for details.

Note that if you select the Dynamic Well Factor option, the instrument will automatically insert a 90-second incubation at 95°C before the initial 95°C denaturation step.

# Universal Kits—Guidelines and Protocols, continued

Cycling Programs — Universal Mix	developed as a gene One-Step SYBR® Gre Program your real-t synthesis at or abov amplification as sho designed for the AB <b>Note:</b> This mix is hig	tep cycling programs have been eral starting point when using EXPRESS eenER <sup>™</sup> qRT-PCR Universal. ime instrument to perform cDNA e 50°C, immediately followed by PCR wn below. The fast cycling program is 7500 in Fast mode. ghly robust and can be used with a wide grams on different instruments. If you
	have an alternative should test it with the	program that you want to use, you nis mix. Note that your protocol <i>must</i> 0°C incubation step for UDG
in Fast mode) 50°C for 5 minutes 95°C for 20 second 40 cycles of: 95°C for 3 seco 60°C for 30 seco Optional: Melting 60°C–95°C (refer	s onds conds curve analysis:	Standard Cycling Program 50°C for 5 minutes (cDNA synthesis) 95°C for 2 minutes 40 cycles of: 95°C for 15 seconds 60°C for 1 minute Optional: Melting curve analysis: 60°C–95°C (refer to instrument manual for specific programming)

# Universal Kits—Guidelines and Protocols, continued

One-Step qRT-PCR — Universal Mix	rea RO and Rad	e the protocol below as a general starting point. Scale the ction volume as needed for your real-time instrument. X is recommended for Applied Biosystems <sup>®</sup> instruments d optional for Stratagene <sup>®</sup> instruments (see page 8). Bio- d iCycler <sup>®</sup> instruments use fluorescein instead of ROX for namic Well Factor readings (see page 9). Set up reactions on ice. A standard 20-µl reaction size is provided; component volumes can be scaled as desired. <b>Always prepare a master mix of common components for multiple reactions</b> .		
	10 p 10 p RO EXI Ter DE	$\label{eq:2.2} \begin{array}{c} & 20-\mu l\ rxn \\ \mbox{XPRESS SYBR® GreenER}^{\rm TM}\ qPCR \\ \mbox{SuperMix Universal} & 10\ \mu l \\ 0\ \mu M\ forward\ primer\ (200\ nM\ final) & 0.4\ \mu l \\ 0\ \mu M\ reverse\ primer\ (200\ nM\ final) & 0.4\ \mu l \\ 0\ X\ Reference\ Dye\ (25\ \mu M)^* & 0.4\ \mu l/0.04^{**}\ \mu l \\ \mbox{XPRESS SuperScript}^{\circledast}\ Mix\ for \\ \mbox{One-Step SYBR}^{\circledast}\ GreenER^{\rm TM} & 0.5\ \mu l \\ \mbox{emplate RNA}\ (e.g.,\ 1\ pg-1\ \mu g\ total\ RNA) & 5\ \mu l \\ \mbox{EPC-treated water} & to\ 20\ \mu l \\ \mbox{*Consult instrument documentation. The iCycler}^{\circledast}\ uses \\ \mbox{fluorescein instead of ROX for Dynamic Well Factor readings} \\ \mbox{(10-20\ nM\ final concentration; see page 9).} \\ \mbox{**See the table on page 8 for the amount/concentration of ROX to use for your specific instrument.} \end{array}$		
<ul> <li>No-RT controls: To test for contamination of the RNA EXPRESS SuperScript® M</li> <li>No-template controls: To contamination of the enzy template RNA.</li> <li>Cap or seal each PCR tub sure that all components a tube/plate; centrifuge brit</li> <li>Place reactions in a real-ti as described on the previou analyze results.</li> <li>Optional: The specificity</li> </ul>		template RNA. Cap or seal each PCR tube/plate, ar sure that all components are at the b tube/plate; centrifuge briefly if need Place reactions in a real-time instrum as described on the previous page.	To test for genomic DNA the RNA sample, do not add the ript <sup>®</sup> Mix. <b>rols:</b> To test for genomic DNA the enzyme/primer mixes, do not add CR tube/plate, and gently mix. Make onents are at the bottom of the fuge briefly if needed. a real-time instrument programmed e previous page. Collect data and cificity of the PCR products can be	

# Kits with Premixed ROX—Guidelines and Protocols

Introduction	This section provides guidelines and protocols for one-ste qRT-PCR using EXPRESS One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> with Premixed ROX.		
Additional Materials Required	<ul> <li>The following items are supplied by the user:</li> <li>DEPC-treated water</li> <li>Gene-specific primers (see page 5 for design guidelines)</li> <li>Microcentrifuge</li> <li>Thermal cycler (see page 4 for information on compatible thermal cyclers)</li> <li>PCR tubes/plates</li> </ul>		
Premixed ROX Concentration	ROX Reference Dye is included in the SuperMix at a final concentration of 500 nM, which is compatible with Applied Biosystems <sup>®</sup> 7900HT, 7300, StepOne <sup>™</sup> , StepOnePlus <sup>™</sup> , GeneAmp <sup>®</sup> 5700, and PRISM <sup>®</sup> 7000 and 7700. <i>Continued on next page</i>		

# Kits with Premixed ROX—Guidelines and Protocols, continued

Cycling Programs — Kits with Premixed ROX	The following one-step cycling programs have been developed as a general starting point when using EXPRESS One-Step SYBR® GreenER <sup>™</sup> qRT-PCR with Premixed ROX. Program your real-time instrument to perform cDNA synthesis at or above 50°C, immediately followed by PCR amplification as shown below. The fast cycling program is designed for the AB 7900HT and StepOne <sup>™</sup> . <b>Note:</b> This mix is highly robust and can be used with a wide range of cycling programs on different instruments. If you have an alternative program that you want to use, you should test it with this mix. Note that your protocol <i>must</i> include an initial ≥50°C incubation step for UDG inactivation and cDNA synthesis.	
and StepOne™) 50°C for 5 minut 95°C for 20 secor 40 cycles of: 95°C for 1 se 60°C for 20 s Optional: Meltin 60°C–95°C (res	cond	Standard Cycling Program 50°C for 5 minutes (cDNA synthesis) 95°C for 2 minutes 40 cycles of: 95°C for 15 seconds 60°C for 1 minute Optional: Melting curve analysis: 60°C–95°C (refer to instrument manual for specific programming)

# Kits with Premixed ROX—Guidelines and Protocols, continued

One-Step qRT- PCR — Kits with Premixed	Use the protocol below as a general starting point for one- step qRT-PCR. Scale the reaction volume as needed for your real-time instrument.			
ROX	1.	Set up reactions on ice. A standard 20-µl reaction size is provided; component volumes can be scaled as desired. Always prepare a master mix of common components for multiple reactions.		
			<u>20-µl rxn</u>	
	EXF	PRESS SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup> qPCR		
		SuperMix with Premixed ROX	10 µl	
		M forward primer (200 nM final)	0.4 µl	
		M reverse primer (200 nM final)	0.4 µl	
	EXI	PRESS SuperScript <sup>®</sup> Mix for		
	Tom	One-Step SYBR <sup>®</sup> GreenER <sup>™</sup>	0.5 μl	
		nplate RNA ( <i>e.g.,</i> 1 pg–1 µg total RNA) PC-treated water	5 μl to 20 μl	
	DEI	C-freated water	ιο 20 μι	
	2.	Prepare control reactions as follows:		
		<b>No-RT controls:</b> To test for genomic DNA contamination of the RNA sample, do not add EXPRESS SuperScript <sup>®</sup> Mix.	l the	
-		<b>No-template controls:</b> To test for genomic DN contamination of the enzyme/primer mixes, contemplate RNA.		
	3.	Cap or seal each PCR tube/plate, and gently mix. Make sure that all components are at the bottom of the tube/plate; centrifuge briefly if needed.		
	4.	Place reactions in a real-time instrument progras described on the previous page. Collect dat analyze results.		
	5.	<b>Optional:</b> The specificity of the PCR products checked by agarose gel electrophoresis.	can be	

#### Troubleshooting

Problem	Cause	Solution
No PCR product is evident in the qPCR graph or on a gel	RNA has been damaged/degraded	Confirm RNA degradation by bioanalyzer or running on a gel, and replace RNA if necessary.
	RNase contamination	Maintain aseptic conditions.
	cDNA synthesis temperature too high, low priming efficiency	SuperScript <sup>®</sup> III in this formulation typically operates in a temperature range of 50–60°C.
	Primers are blocked by secondary structure	Raise the incubation temperature and/or redesign primer(s).
PCR product is evident on a gel, but not in the qPCR graph	qPCR instrument settings are incorrect	Confirm that you are using the correct instrument settings (dye selection, reference dye, filters, and acquisition points).
Product detected at higher than expected cycle number	Inefficient cDNA synthesis	Adjust cDNA synthesis temperature and/or primer design.
	RT inhibitors are present in RNA	Remove inhibitors in the purified RNA by an additional 70% ethanol wash.
	RNA has been damaged/degraded	Confirm RNA degradation by Bioanalyzer or running on a gel, and replace if necessary.
	RNase contamination	Maintain aseptic conditions.
	Inefficient PCR amplification	Optimize PCR conditions by adjusting annealing temperature and/or redesigning the primers.
	Not enough template RNA	Increase concentration of template RNA to 10 ng-1 µg total RNA.
Higher than expected signal	Too much sample added to reactions	Decrease the concentration of template RNA.

## Troubleshooting, continued

Signals are present	Template or	Use melting curve analysis and/or
in no-template	reagents are	run the PCR products on a gel after
controls, and/or	contaminated by	the reaction to identify
multiple peaks are	nucleic acids (DNA,	contaminants. See the guidelines for
present in the	cDNA)	avoiding contamination on page 6.
melting curve graph	Primer dimers or other primer artifacts are present	Use melting curve analysis to identify primer dimers. We recommend using validated pre- designed primer sets or design primers using dedicated software programs or primer databases. Primer contamination or truncated or degraded primers can lead to artifacts. Check the purity of your primers by gel electrophoresis.

## Appendix

#### **Technical Support**

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#### On the Web



Visit the Invitrogen website at <u>www.invitrogen.com</u> for:

- Complete technical support contact information
- Technical resources, including manuals, vector maps and sequences, application notes, SDSs, FAQs, formulations, citations, handbooks, etc.
- Access to the Invitrogen Online Catalog
- Additional product information and special offers

#### **Contact Us**

For more information or technical assistance, call, write, fax, or email. Additional international offices are listed on our website (<u>www.invitrogen.com</u>).

#### **Corporate Headquarters:**

5791 Van Allen Way Carlsbad, CA 92008 USA Tel: 1 760 603 7200 Tel (Toll Free): 1 800 955 6288 Fax: 1 760 602 6500 E-mail: tech\_support@invitrogen.com

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#### **European Headquarters:**

Inchinnan Business Park 3 Fountain Drive Paisley PA4 9RF, UK Tel: +44 (0) 141 814 6100 Tech Fax: +44 (0) 141 814 6117 E-mail: eurotech@invitrogen.com

# SDS Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are available on our website at www.invitrogen.com/sds. Certificate of The Certificate of Analysis provides detailed quality contribution of the certificate of Analysis provides detailed quality contribution.

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## **Technical Support, continued**

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#### Additional Products

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TRIzol <sup>®</sup> Reagent	100 ml 200 ml	15596-026 15596-018
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