

PEG/DMSO competent cells and transformation

From Simon Boulton's lab.

Preparation of PEG/DMSO competent cells

- 1) Streak the required strain on an LB plate and incubate overnight at 37°C.
- 2) Inoculate a single colony into 5 ml LB and shake overnight at 37°C.
- 3) Use this 5 ml LB overnight culture to inoculate 500 ml of LB. Shake at 37°C until an OD600 of 0.5-0.6 is reached.
- 4) Spin cells for 5 min at 2000 rpm, 4°C.
- 5) Gently resuspend cells in 25 ml of ice cold TSB buffer.
- 6) Incubate on ice for 10 minutes.
- 7) Aliquot, flash freeze in liquid nitrogen and store at -80°C.

TSB buffer

LB pH 6.1 (with concentrated HCl)
10% PEG-3350
5% DMSO
10 mM MgCl₂
10 mM MGSO₄

Filter sterilize and store at 4°C.

Transformation of PEG/DMSO competent cells.

- 1) Thaw cells on ice.
- 2) Mix DNA, 5xKCM and dH₂O to a final volume of 100 µl at 1xKCM final concentration (this reaction and cells added can be scaled down or up).
- 3) Add an equal amount of cells, mix and incubate on ice for 20 minutes.
- 4) Incubate at room temperature for 10 minutes.
- 5) Add 1 ml of SOC or LB and shake for 1 hr at 37°C. Plate on LB agar+appropriate antibiotic(s).

5xKCM

500 mM KCl
150 mM CaCl₂
250 mM MgCl₂

Filter sterilize and store at room temperature.