

# Purchaser Notification

Catalog no. K2800-20SC

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Corporate Headquarters  
Tel: 800 955 6288  
Fax: 760 602 6500  
tech\_service@invitrogen.com



For contact information for other countries, visit our Web site at [www.invitrogen.com](http://www.invitrogen.com).

# Zero Blunt® TOPO® PCR Cloning Kit

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QUICK  
REFERENCE  
CARD

Instructions are provided to TOPO® Clone your PCR product into pCR®-Blunt II-TOPO® and transform the reaction into chemically competent *E. coli* cells. For transformation of electrocompetent *E. coli* cells, a diagram of the multiple cloning site, and detailed instructions, refer to the Zero Blunt® TOPO® PCR Cloning Kit manual available from [www.invitrogen.com](http://www.invitrogen.com) or Technical Service.

## Producing Blunt PCR Products

Produce blunt-end PCR products using a thermostable proofreading polymerase and your own protocol. End the PCR reaction with a final 7 to 30 minutes extension step.

## TOPO® Cloning Reaction

- Set up the following 6 µl TOPO® Cloning reaction:

Reagent	Amount*
Fresh PCR Product	0.5 to 4 µl
Salt Solution	1 µl
Sterile Water	add to a total volume of 5 µl
pCR®-Blunt II-TOPO®	1 µl
Final Volume	6 µl

\*For transformation of chemically competent *E. coli* only.

- Mix gently and incubate for 5 minutes at room temperature.
- Place tubes on ice. Proceed to Transformation and Analysis.

Corporate Headquarters  
Tel: 800 955 6288  
Fax: 760 602 6500  
tech\_service@invitrogen.com



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## 2 Transformation and Analysis

Protocols to transform chemically competent cells and to analyze positive clones are provided below. If you wish to transform electrocompetent cells, refer to the Zero Blunt® TOPO® PCR Cloning Kit manual for instructions.

### One Shot® Chemical Transformation

- Thaw on ice 1 vial of One Shot® *E. coli* cells for each transformation.
- Add 2 µl of the TOPO® Cloning reaction to a vial of One Shot® *E. coli* and mix gently.
- Incubate on ice for 5-30 minutes.
- Heat-shock the cells for 30 seconds at 42°C without shaking.
- Add 250 µl of room temperature S.O.C. medium to the cells.
- Cap the tubes and shake at 37°C for 1 hour.
- Spread 10-50 µl from each transformation on prewarmed LB plates containing 50 µg/ml kanamycin or prewarmed Low Salt LB plates containing 25 µg/ml Zeocin™. Refer to the Zero Blunt® TOPO® PCR Cloning Kit manual for a recipe for Low Salt LB medium.
- Incubate plates overnight at 37°C.
- An efficient TOPO® Cloning reaction should produce several hundred colonies. Pick ~10 colonies for analysis. Proceed to Analyzing Positive Clones.

## 3 Transformation and Analysis, cont'd

### Analyzing Positive Clones

- Culture the 10 colonies overnight in LB medium containing 50 µg/ml kanamycin or Low Salt LB medium containing 25 µg/ml Zeocin™.
- Isolate plasmid DNA using your method of choice. For ultra-pure plasmid DNA, we recommend the PureLink™ HQ Mini Plasmid Purification Kit (Catalog no. K2100-01).
- Analyze the plasmid by restriction analysis or by sequencing to confirm the presence and correct orientation of the insert.

### Map of pCR®-Blunt II-TOPO®

