

# Trypan Blue

Reagent for counting viable mammalian cells

Catalog #07050

100 mL

## Product Description

Trypan Blue is recommended for counting viable mammalian cells. Viable cell counts should be performed when a decrease in cell viability may be expected, for example, when working with cryopreserved cells or cells manipulated ex vivo.

**Stability and Storage:** Store at 15 - 25°C.  
Stable until expiry date (EXP) on label.

**Contains:**

- Trypan blue (0.4%)
- Phosphate buffered saline (PBS)

This product is hazardous. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

## Directions for Use

1. Dilute cells 1:1 in Trypan Blue.  
NOTE: If the cell count appears high, the cells may first be diluted with a balanced salt solution such as D-PBS (Without Ca<sup>++</sup> and Mg<sup>++</sup>; Catalog #37350) before Trypan Blue is added.
2. Allow the resulting solution to sit for 5 - 15 minutes. Only non-viable cells will be stained with the Trypan Blue dye; viable cells will remain unstained.  
NOTE: If cells are incubated for > 15 minutes in Trypan Blue, toxicity effects may occur and the viable cell count will be inaccurate.
3. Prepare a hemocytometer (e.g. Catalog #100-1181) by first cleaning the chamber surface with alcohol. Wipe dry.
4. Position the coverslip over the chambers. Carefully transfer sufficient volume of the Trypan Blue/cell solution to each chamber using a capillary tube or pipetman. Do not over- or underfill.
5. Count the cells in one chamber. Keep a separate count of viable (unstained) and non-viable (blue) cells. Count all cells in each 1 mm square of each chamber. If cells are on the border outlining each square, count only the cells on the top and left border of the square.  
NOTE: Each square has a total volume of 0.1 mm<sup>3</sup> (or 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>, which is approximately equivalent to 10<sup>-4</sup> mL).
6. Determine the cell count (cells per mL) as follows:  
average cell count per square x dilution factor x 10<sup>4</sup> = cell count per mL
7. Determine the cell viability (%) as follows:  
cell count (viable) / total cell count (viable + non-viable) = cell viability (%)

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