

1. Prepare 5X ISO buffer. Six ml of this buffer can be prepared by combining the following:

3 ml of 1 M Tris-HCl pH 7.5
150 μ l of 2 M MgCl₂
60 μ l of 100 mM dGTP
60 μ l of 100 mM dATP
60 μ l of 100 mM dTTP
60 μ l of 100 mM dCTP
300 μ l of 1 M DTT
1.5 g PEG-8000
300 μ l of 100 mM NAD
Add water to 6 ml
Aliquot 100 μ l and store at -20 °C

2. Prepare an assembly master mixture. This can be prepared by combining the following:

320 μ l 5X ISO buffer
0.64 μ l of 10 U/ μ l T5 exo
20 μ l of 2 U/ μ l Phusion pol
160 μ l of 40 U/ μ l Taq lig
Add water to 1.2 ml
Aliquot 15 μ l and store at -20 °C. This assembly mixture can be stored at -20 °C for at least one year. The enzymes remain active following at least 10 freeze-thaw cycles.
This is ideal for the assembly of DNA molecules with 20-150 bp overlaps. For DNA molecules overlapping by larger than 150 bp, prepare the assembly mixture by using 3.2 μ l of 10 U/ μ l T5 exo.

3. Thaw a 15 μ l assembly mixture aliquot and keep on ice until ready to be used.

4. Add 5 μ l of DNA to be assembled to the master mixture. The DNA should be in equimolar amounts. Use 10-100 ng of each ~6 kb DNA fragment. For larger DNA segments, increasingly proportionate amounts of DNA should be added (e.g. 250 ng of each 150 kb DNA segment).

5. Incubate at 50 °C for 15 to 60 min (60 min is optimal).

6. If cloning is desired, electroporate 1 μ l of the assembly reaction into 30 μ l electrocompetent *E. coli*.