

Gibson Cloning Protocol

- Design primers and/or gBlocks for both vector and insert. Primers and/or gBlocks should be designed such that the “vector” and “insert” pieces contain 20 bp overlap at the 3’ and 5’ ends.
- PCR both vector and/or insert using the primers designed above
 - Check melting temperature of primer pair at: <http://www.thermoscientificbio.com/webtools/tmc/>
For primers >20 nt, use an annealing temp that is 3°C above the lower T_m of the primer pair.
For primers ≤20 nt, use an annealing temp equal to the lower T_m of the primer pair.
 - 30uL reaction
 - 1uL template (10 ng/uL)
 - 1.5uL of each primer (10uM stock)
 - 11uL water
 - 15uL 2X Phusion master mix (NEB F-531)
 - Cycle for 30 cycles
 - 98°C for 30 sec
 - 98°C for 10 sec
 - 55-65°C for 20 sec
 - 72°C for 15-30s/kb (30 sec for insert, 2-3 min for vector)
 - 72°C for 10 min
- DpnI digest PCR if it used intact plasmid as template
 - 1 uL DpnI
 - DpnI has full activity in Phusion buffer
 - Incubate for 15-60 minutes at 37°C
- PCR cleanup both vector and insert (gel purify if necessary)
- Nanodrop vector and insert
- If using a gBlock for your insert, dilute to 10 ng/uL with water.
- Calculate the pmol/uL concentration for vector and insert(s)
 - $$\frac{\text{pmols}}{\text{uL}} = \frac{(\text{Concentration} \frac{\text{ng}}{\text{uL}}) * 1000}{\text{base pairs} * 650 \text{ Da}}$$
- Gibson Reaction: 20uL volume
 - ~0.03 pmol vector (~100 ng for 5kb vector)
 - ~0.06 pmol insert, 2-fold molar excess (~20 ng for 500 bp insert)
 - Water
 - 10uL Gibson Master Mix (2X, NEB E5510)
- Note: for reactions containing multiple inserts, each should be added at ~0.06 pmol.
- Incubate at 50°C for 60 minutes
- Transform into E. coli (XL10 Gold, DH5a, TOP10, etc.) using 2uL of assembly product