

PepMute™ Plus siRNA Transfection Reagent

----- A General Protocol for Transfecting
siRNA to Mammalian Cells

- ☐ 100 µL
☐ 500 µL
☐ 1000 µL



5260 Westview Dr, Suite 100
Frederick MD 21703
FAX: 301-560-4919
TEL: 301-330-5966
Toll Free: 1-(866)-918-6812
Email: info@signagen.com
Web: www.signagen.com

This product is for laboratory research ONLY and not for diagnostic use

Introduction:

PepMute™ Plus Reagent is an advanced version of PepMute™ siRNA Transfection Reagent. Through incorporation of several pre-screened hydrophobic moieties into its peptide backbone, PepMute™ Plus Reagent gains enhanced self-assembly capability upon binding nucleic acids, making it a versatile and highly efficient gene delivery tool. PepMute™ Plus Reagent has been validated for effective and reproducible transfection of siRNA as well as DNA/siRNA co-transfection across a broad range of mammalian cell types.

Important Guidelines for Transfection:

- PepMute™ Plus Reagent was developed as a highly efficient siRNA delivery reagent. For most adherent cell lines and primary cells, a final siRNA concentration of approximately 5 nM is generally sufficient to achieve up to 90% gene silencing. For difficult-to-transfect cell types, we recommend using a final siRNA concentration of approximately 50 nM.
- Although standard protocols for siRNA transfection and DNA/siRNA co-transfection are provided below, optimization of transfection conditions may be required to achieve maximal gene silencing efficiency depending on the cell type and experimental application.

PART I. Standard siRNA Transfection of Adherent Cells

Step 1. Preparation of Working Solution of PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1x):

PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (5x) is provided as 5x concentrated stock solution. To make working solution (1x), dilute one part of the stock solution with 4 parts of ddH₂O into a sterile bottle. The working solution is stable at RT for 24 months.

Note: Always keep PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (5x) at RT. If refrigerated, white precipitates may appear. It won't affect the transfection efficiency. After dilution with 4 parts of ddH₂O to make PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1x) working solution, the white precipitates will disappear. Always keep PepMute™ Transfection Buffer working solution (1x) at RT.

Table 1. General Guidelines for siRNA Transfection According to Cell Culture Vessel Format

Culture Dish	Growth Medium (mL)	Transfection Buffer (1x) (µL)	siRNA (pmol) Final 5.0 or 50 nM	PepMute™ Plus Reagent (µL)
24-well	1	50	5.0 / <u>50</u>	1.2 ~ <u>2.0</u>
12-well	1.5	75	7.5 / <u>75</u>	2.0 ~ <u>3.3</u>
6-well	2	100	10 / <u>100</u>	2.4 ~ <u>4.0</u>
60 mm	5	300	25 / <u>250</u>	7.2 ~ <u>12</u>
10 cm / Flask 75	10	600	50 / <u>500</u>	14 ~ <u>24</u>

Step 2. Cell Seeding:

Seed cells 18–24 hours prior to transfection to achieve approximately ~50% confluency at the time of transfection. Replenish each well with fresh complete growth medium (containing serum and antibiotics) 30–60 minutes before initiating the transfection procedure.

Note: PepMute™ Plus Reagent is compatible with serum- and antibiotic-containing media and does not require serum-free conditions at any stage of the experiment.

Step 3. siRNA Transfection

A final siRNA concentration of 1–100 nM is recommended. For most adherent cell lines and primary cells, a starting concentration of **5 nM** typically yields effective silencing. For difficult-to-transfect cell types, a concentration of **50 nM** is recommended (indicated in bold/underline in **Table 1**). The following protocol is described per well of a 6-well plate. For other culture vessel formats, refer to **Table 1**.

- Add 2.0 mL of fresh complete medium (with serum and antibiotics) to each well 30–60 minutes before transfection.
- Dilute 10 pmol (for 5 nM final) or 100 pmol (for 50 nM final) siRNA into 100 µL of PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1×). Vortex briefly to mix.
Note: Prepare siRNA stocks at 10 µM; add 1.0 µL (for 5 nM) or 10 µL (for 50 nM) per well accordingly. Use of PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1×) as the diluent is essential for optimal silencing.
- Add 2.4 µL PepMute™ Plus Reagent (or 4.0 µL for difficult-to-transfect cells). Mix by pipetting up and down gently.
- Incubate the siRNA–reagent mixture at RT for approximately 15 minutes to allow transfection complex formation.
Note: Do not extend complex incubation beyond 30 minutes, as this may reduce transfection efficiency.
- Add the transfection complex dropwise to the cells. Rock the plate gently and return the plate to the CO₂ incubator.
- If required, replace the transfection medium with fresh complete growth medium approximately 5 hours post-transfection.
- Assess gene silencing by qRT-PCR, Western blot, or functional assay 48–72 hours post-transfection.

PART II. A Standard Protocol for DNA/siRNA Co-transfection

Step 1. Preparation of PepMute™ Plus Transfection Buffer Working Solution (1×)

Prepare as described in Part I, Step 1.

Step 2. Cell Seeding

Seed cells 18–24 hours prior to transfection to achieve approximately 70% confluency at the time of transfection.

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Add fresh complete growth medium 30–60 minutes before transfection.

Note: PepMute™ Plus Reagent performs equivalently in the presence of serum and antibiotics; serum-free media substitution is not required.

Step 3. DNA/siRNA Co-transfection

For co-transfection, use 0.3–0.5 µg plasmid DNA and 1–20 nM siRNA per well of a 6-well plate. A recommended starting condition is 0.5 µg DNA and 20 pmol siRNA (10 nM final concentration) per well, which yields satisfactory knockdown for most cell lines.

The following protocol applies per well of a 6-well plate. For other culture formats, refer to **Table 2**.

1. Add 1.0 mL of fresh complete medium (with serum and antibiotics) to each well 30–60 minutes before transfection.
2. Combine 0.5 µg plasmid DNA and 10 pmol siRNA in 100 µL of PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1×). Mix gently by pipetting.

Note: Prepare siRNA stocks at 10 µM; add 1.0 µL per well to achieve a 10 nM final concentration. Use of PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (1×) for dilution is critical for co-transfection efficiency.

3. Immediately add 3 µL PepMute™ Plus Reagent and mix by pipetting up and down.
4. Incubate at RT for approximately 15 minutes to allow ternary complex formation.
Note: Do not exceed 30 minutes of complex incubation.
5. Add the transfection complex dropwise to the cells. Rock the plate gently and return to the CO₂ incubator.
6. Replace the transfection medium with fresh complete growth medium approximately 5 hours post-transfection, if required.
7. Analyze knockdown efficiency 48–72 hours post-transfection by appropriate molecular or functional assays.

Table 2. General Guidelines for DNA and siRNA Co-Transfection According to Cell Culture Vessel Format

Culture Dish	Growth Medium (mL)	Transfection Buffer (1x) (µL)	Plasmid DNA (µg)	siRNA (pmol) Final 10 nM	PepMute Reagent (µL)
24-well	1.0	50	0.25	10	1.5
12-well	1.5	75	0.375	15	2.25
6-well	2.0	100	0.5	20	3
60 mm	5.0	300	1.5	50	7.5
10 cm / flask 75	10	600	4.0	100	15

Storage: PepMute™ Plus siRNA Transfection Reagent is stable for up to **24 months at 4° C**. PepMute™ Transfection Buffer (5 x) and (1x) must be stored at RT. The product is shipped at ambient temperature.