

I N S T R U C T I O N S

Liquid Nitrogen Cooled Mini Mortar

Pulverize tissue and extract DNA or RNA from tiny tissue samples in ONE microcentrifuge tube



CAUTION: ALWAYS WEAR GLOVES AND GOGGLES WHEN WORKING WITH LIQUID NITROGEN

1. Slip the handle onto the stainless steel ladle bracket protruding from the mortar bowl and lift the mortar out of its well.
2. Pour liquid nitrogen into the stainless steel well located beneath the mortar until it reaches the scribed line on the inside surface. DO NOT pour liquid nitrogen into the mortar itself.
3. Lift the mortar by its handle and slowly insert it into the stainless steel well, locating the handle in one of the notches at the top of the blue polyethylene housing.
4. Place the pestle in the mortar and allow mortar and pestle to cool for several minutes until vapors subside.
5. Insert the microcentrifuge tube containing the frozen tissue into the stainless steel mini mortar (or insert an empty microcentrifuge tube to cool it first and then add the tissue sample) and with the aid of the cooled pestle apply controlled pressure against the frozen tissue while turning around the pestle within the microcentrifuge tube. Tissue will pulverize within a few turns.
6. Do not apply too much pressure or hit the pestle against the frozen tissue as this may cause the tube to crack.
7. After pulverization, add the lysing buffer and the other reagents into the microcentrifuge tube and remove it from the mini mortar. The frozen tissue will melt and the nucleases inhibitors present in the added reagents will avoid degradation of nucleic acids. Follow your protocol and continue extracting the nucleic acid.