



Product Information

CRYSTAL MOUNT™ AQUEOUS MOUNTING MEDIUM

Product Number **C 0612**
Store at Room Temperature

Product Description

Crystal Mount is an aqueous-based, permanent mounting medium designed specifically for the permanent preservation of horseradish peroxidase and alkaline phosphatase stained tissue sections. Crystal Mount permits the long-term storage of antigens localized using organic insoluble chromogen substrates including 4CIN, Fast Red/Naphthol AS-TR Phosphate, and BCIP/NBT. When properly mounted with Crystal Mount, these chromogens exhibit enhanced contrast and maintain their original clarity and strength of color. Crystal Mount can also be used with tissue sections stained with DAB, thus eliminating the dehydration procedure.

In addition, Crystal Mount is compatible with fluorescein, rhodamine, Texas Red, and FluoroBlue stained specimens. Crystal Mount is not compatible with phycoerythrin, phycocyanin or allophycocyanin, Nuclear Fast Red, BC-50, Light Green or tetramethylbenzidine (TMB). It is also not compatible with eosin staining.

Crystal Mount Mounting Medium has a refractive index (nD) of 1.354 ± 0.002 (in solution only). The initial pH ranges from 10.5 to 10.7. Plasticizers contain an acidic component that lowers pH over time. The pH may be adjusted using Tris-base. 30 ml of Crystal Mount is enough for approximately 50 slides

Reagents

Crystal Mount is supplied ready-to-use.

Precautions and Disclaimer

Crystal Mount is for laboratory use only and not for drug, household or other use.

Storage/Stability

Store at room temperature away from flame. Keep away from moisture. Keep bottle tightly sealed.

Procedure

Before using this product, remove the red cap covering the tip of the bottle and cut off the tip of the nozzle using a sharp blade or scissors. Place the bottle of Crystal Mount upside down in a cup or bottle. This eliminates prevents the introduction of air bubbles.

1. Place all slides to be mounted on a horizontal surface and apply three drops of Crystal Mount to the tissue sections.
2. Rotate the slides covered by the Crystal Mount so that it spreads to cover an area approximately the size of a quarter. **Do not** apply a coverslip on top of the Crystal Mount.
3. Place the slides horizontally in an oven set at 40 to 50 °C for at least 30 minutes, or at 20 to 37 °C for 1 to 2 hours. For fluorogenic compounds adjust drying to 60 to 70 °C for 20 minutes.
4. Remove the slides from the oven and allow them to reach room temperature. The slides are now ready for microscopic visualization.

Notes:

- Do not use oil directly on top of dried Crystal Mount.
- Maximum section thickness recommended is 5 to 8 microns. Thicker sections will produce air pockets. Microscopic air bubbles may be found after applying Crystal Mount on some tissue sections, particularly normal and necrotic gastrointestinal sections. Slow drying of mounting medium at room temperature may help to eliminate this effect.
- The hardened Crystal Mount polymer forms an impervious barrier to organic solvent-based mounting media, such as Permount™. The hardened polymer in Crystal Mount has a refractive index very close to that of Permount that may be used for post-mounting.

- Removal: Solidified Crystal Mount may be partially or completely removed if the slides have not been post-mounted. Immerse slides in distilled water and occasionally agitate the slides to assist in the removal of the Crystal/Mount layer. Use gentle agitation to avoid the detachment of the tissue sections from the glass. Repeat this procedure until the film of Crystal/Mount is removed. If extended overnight incubations are required, add sodium azide to a concentration of 0.05% to avoid bacterial

growth. Crystal Mount may interfere with some restaining procedures.

- Crystal Mount is a trademark of Biomedica Corporation. Permount is a trademark of Fisher Scientific

LCM 04/02

Sigma brand products are sold through Sigma-Aldrich, Inc.

Sigma-Aldrich, Inc. warrants that its products conform to the information contained in this and other Sigma-Aldrich publications. Purchaser must determine the suitability of the product(s) for their particular use. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Please see reverse side of the invoice or packing slip.