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## PRODUCT INFORMATION

Product  VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium with DAPI

Catalog No.  H-1500

Amount  10 ml

Concentration of DAPI  1.5 µg/ml

Storage Conditions  Refrigerate in the dark

VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium preserves fluorescence and hardens after coverslipping. VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium's unique, stable formula prevents rapid photobleaching of fluorescent proteins and fluorescent dyes (see website for compatibility).

This special formulation of VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium contains 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI), which fluoresces when bound to DNA and is used as a nuclear or chromosomal counterstain. This product is designed to be used for *in situ* hybridization techniques or other procedures requiring fluorescent labeling of DNA. DAPI may also stain RNA but displays greater selectivity for binding DNA over RNA. DAPI excites at about 360 nm and emits at about 460 nm when bound to DNA, producing a blue fluorescence.

VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium is supplied in a bottle fitted with a screw cap. A cap fitted with a drop dispenser pipet is also included. The screw cap can be replaced with the drop dispenser cap for routine use and during storage. Once the drop dispenser cap has been secured on the bottle, the bottle should be stored in an upright position.

To mount tissues or cells on a slide, dispense VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium onto the specimen. The special pipet supplied with the product is designed to deliver small drop volumes of approximately 25 µl. Coverslip and allow VECTASHIELD® Hard+Set™ Mounting Medium to disperse over the entire specimen.

After approximately 15 minutes at room temperature, the coverslip will become immobilized, and optimal antifade ability and refractive index will be achieved. After curing at room temperature for 15 minutes, slides can be placed at 4 °C, and the mounting media will harden completely overnight. Mounted slides should be stored at 4 °C or -20 °C, protected from light. For prolonged storage, -20 °C is recommended. If retraction occurs during prolonged storage, remove coverslip and remount. Coverslips can be easily removed by soaking in PBS overnight.

(over)



**Notes:**

When mounting thick sections, adjustments to the mounting protocol may be required. Use of non-hardening VECTASHIELD® Mounting Medium (H-1200) may be preferred.

The nuclear counterstains, DAPI and PI, will diffuse out of nuclei over time if the cells have been fixed in 100% methanol. In this case non-hardening VECTASHIELD® Mounting Medium may be preferred.

**Note:** DAPI is a mutagen and appropriate precautions should be taken when using it.

**VECTASHIELD® Mounting Media Products:**

Product	Counterstain	Cat. No.	Unit Size	Hardening	Refractive Index*
VECTASHIELD® Mounting Medium	none	H-1000	10 ml	no	1.45
	DAPI	H-1200	10 ml	no	1.45
	PI	H-1300	10 ml	no	1.45
VECTASHIELD® Hard•Set™ Mounting Medium	none	H-1400	10 ml	yes	1.46
	DAPI	H-1500	10 ml	yes	1.46
	TRITC-Phalloidin	H-1600	10 ml	yes	1.46

\*Measured at room temperature. VECTASHIELD® Hard•Set™ Mounting Medium measured after hardening.

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