

Directions for Negative Staining Samples

1. Coat TEM grids with formvar followed by a thin layer of carbon. Or use pre-coated grids.
2. Place fixed sample on coated grids and incubate from 1 to 15 minutes depending on the sample. Prepare a minimum of 2 grids per sample.
3. Wick sample from the grid using filter paper.
4. Wash grids once with ultra pure water to remove excess sample.
5. Wick water from the grid using filter paper.
6. Place either uranyl acetate (UA) or phosphotungstic acid (PTA) on the grid for 0.5 to 15 minutes. The time will depend on the concentration and stain used.
7. Wick excess stain from grid using filter paper.
8. Allow grids to air dry.