

COLONY PCR

1. Prepare PCR master mix. Typical reaction:

2 μ l 10X Taq buffer

2 μ l MgCl₂

1 μ l dNTP's (2.5mM)

0.5 μ l Primer A

0.5 μ l Primer B

0.2 μ l Taq

Up to 20 μ l H₂O

2. Aliquot master mix into 20 μ l reactions. Keep on ice.
3. Take a fresh LB + selection plate. Draw a grid with appropriate number of squares.
4. Using a 20 μ l pipette pick a colony from the ligation plate with the tip.
5. Streak the tip onto the grid.
6. Then draw up and expel the PCR mix in the PCR tube a few times with the inoculated tip.
7. Repeat for all samples.
8. Once all samples ready, run PCR. Suggested program:
 - 94°C - 5mins
 - 94°C - 30 sec
 - 55°C - 30 sec
 - 72°C - 30 sec
 - 72°C - 10 mins
 - 4°C - Forever....

Repeat steps 2-4 25 times.

Obviously annealing temp and extension time dependent on reaction.

9. Put gridded plate in 37 °C incubator
10. Run samples on gel.
11. Set up O/N cultures of +ve clones.

HINTS: Use a +ve and a -ve control in PCR if possible

If cloning non-directionally, try and use primer pairs which indicate presence of insert AND direction of insert.