## Thermo Scientific Pierce Protein Assay Selection Guide

Thermo Scientific™ Pierce™ Protein Assay	Pierce 660nm Protein Assay (Product # 22660 and 22662)	BCA Protein Assay (Product # 23225 and 23227)	Micro BCA Protein Assay (Product # 23235)	BCA, Reducing Agent Compatible Assay (Product # 23250 and 23252)	Coomassie Plus Protein Assay (Product # 23236)	Coomassie Protein Assay (Product # 23200)	Modified Lowry Protein Assay (Product # 23240)
Advantages	<ul> <li>Compatible with reducing agents, chelating agents and detergents</li> <li>Faster and easier to perform than BCA or Coomassie (Bradford) Assays</li> <li>Excellent linearity of color development within the detection range</li> <li>Reaches a stable end point</li> <li>Compatible with Laemmli sample buffer containing bromophenol blue</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Faster and easier to perform than the Lowry Protein Assay</li> <li>As accurate as the Lowry Protein Assay and more stable</li> <li>Compatible with most ionic and nonionic detergents (SDS, Triton X-100, etc.)</li> <li>Less protein-to-protein variability than the Coomassie (Bradford) Assay</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Measures dilute protein samples in the presence of detergents</li> <li>Easier to perform than the Lowry Protein Assay</li> <li>Less protein-to-protein variability than the Coomassie (Bradford) Assay</li> <li>Excellent linearity of color response within the detection range</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Measures protein samples in the presence of reducing agents, chelating agents and detergents</li> <li>Less protein-to-protein variability than the Coomassie (Bradford) Assay</li> <li>Assay protocol utilizes small sample volumes</li> <li>Available in both standard and microplate formats</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lowest protein-to-protein variability of any standard coomassie dye-based (Bradford) Assay</li> <li>Faster than the BCA or Lowry Protein Assays</li> <li>Ready to use: does not require prefiltering or dilution</li> <li>Compatible with reducing agents (BME, DTT)</li> <li>Reaches a stable end-point</li> <li>Superior linear response ranging from 125 to 1,000µg/mL for BSA</li> <li>Best linearity of color response of all coomassie dye-based protein assays</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Faster than the BCA or Lowry Protein Assays</li> <li>Ready to use: does not require prefiltering or diluting</li> <li>Compatible with reducing agents (BME, DTT)</li> <li>Reaches a stable end-point</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Stable, ready-to-use copper solution (no need to make fresh every day)</li> <li>More accurate than the Coomassie (Bradford) Assay</li> <li>Less protein-to-protein variability than the Coomassie (Bradford) Assay</li> <li>Reaches a stable end-point where color absorbance does not drift</li> <li>100% correlation with the original Lowry Method</li> </ul>
Applications	<ul> <li>Ideal for measuring total protein concentration in samples containing both reducing agents and detergents</li> <li>Used for quick yet accurate estimation of protein</li> <li>Measures peptides as small as 2,500Da</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ideal for measuring detergent-solubilized membrane proteins</li> <li>Measures peptides as small as 2,000Da</li> <li>Can be used to measure protein on solid surfaces such as affinity supports, plastic microplates and membranes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ideal for measuring dilute protein solutions that do not contain reducing agents</li> <li>Measures peptides as small as 2,000Da</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ideal for measuring total protein concentration in samples containing both reducing agents and detergents</li> <li>Measures peptides as small as 2,000Da</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Used for quick estimation of protein concentration</li> <li>Used to measure protein in the presence of reducing agents</li> <li>Measures protein of &gt; 3,000Da</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Used for quick estimation of protein concentration</li> <li>Used to measure protein in the presence of reducing agents</li> <li>Measures protein of &gt; 3,000Da</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Substitute for "homemade" preparations of the Lowry reagents</li> <li>For the determination of a broad range of proteins after TCA precipitation</li> <li>Compatible with any published method for sample treatment modification of the Lowry Assay</li> </ul>
Standard Assay Protocol	Spectrophotometer	0.1mL sample 50 parts "A" + Incubate: 30 minutes 1 part "B" reagent 30 minutes at 37°C Spectrophotometer Mix working Mix well Then cool Measure at 562nm Microplate Proder	50 parts "MA" 48 parts "MB" 2 parts "MC" 1mL sample + 1mL working reagent 1mL sample + 1mL working reagent 1mL sample + 1mL working 1mL sample + 1ncubate: 60 °C 5 pectrophotometer 60 °C 5 pectrophotometer Mix working reagent Mix well Then cool Measure at 562nm Microplate Reader	25µL sample + 25µL RAC Reagent Working Reagent Read at 562nm	Spectrophotometer Spectrophotometer Mix 0.05mL sample + 1.5mL Coomassie Plus Reagent Mix and incubate at RT for 10 minutes Microplate Reader	Spectrophotometer Spectrophotometer Mix 0.03mL sample + 1.5mL Coomassie Reagent Mix and incubate at RT for 10 minutes Microplate Destruction	1 part water+ 1 part water+ 1 part 2N Phenol Reagent 0.1mL Modified Lowry Reagent 0.1mL 1N Phenol Reagent 0.1mL 1N Phenol Reagent Spectrophotometer Mix well, incubate exactly 10 minutes at room temperature Mix well, incubate exactly 30 minutes
	Add 10µL sample and 150µL Assay Reagent Add 10µL sample and incubate at RT for 5 minutes Add 10µL sample and incubate at RT for 5 minutes Add 10µL sample absorbance at 660nm	Add 25µL sample and 200µL working reagent Mix on a plate shaker and incubate at 37°C for 30 minutes Mix on a plate shaker and incubate at 37°C	Add 150µL sample and 150µL working reagent Mix on a plate shaker and incubate at 37°C for 2 hours S62nm	Pipette 9µL sample Compatibility Reagent Nix on plate shaker for 1 min. and incubate at 37°C for 15 min. Add Wix on plate shaker for 1 min. and incubate at 37°C for 30 min.	Add 10µL sample and 300µL Coomassie Plus Reagent REAST AND ADDRESS	Add 5µL sample and 250µL Coomassie Reagent Alt Tor 10 minutes Sp5nm	Add 40µL sample and 20µL Mix on a plate shaker and incubate at RT Modified Lowry Reagent Add 20µL 1N Phenol Reagent Add 20µL 1N Phenol Reagent for 10 minutes Nix on a plate for 10 minutes
Precautions	<ul> <li>Use reagent with IDCR (lonic Detergent Compatibility Reagent) with samples containing ionic detergents like SDS</li> <li>Greater protein-to-protein variability than the BCA Assay</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not compatible with reducing agents such as DTT, β-mercaptoethanol (BME), glucose or ascorbic acid</li> <li>Measure samples within 10 minutes to avoid effects of drifting color</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not compatible with reducing agents such as DTT, β-mercaptoethanol (BME), glucose or ascorbic acid</li> <li>Measure samples within 10 minutes to avoid effects of drifting color</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Measure samples within 10 minutes to avoid the effects of drifting color</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Interference from ionic and nonionic detergents</li> <li>Greater protein-to-protein variability than the BCA or Lowry Assays</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Interference from ionic and nonionic detergents</li> <li>Greater protein-to-protein variability than the BCA and Lowry Assays</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Interference from reducing agents, some detergents, copper-chelating agents, carbohydrates and Tris</li> <li>Requires timed addition of reagents</li> <li>Practical limit of about 20 samples at one time</li> </ul>
Reaction Schemes	RT       Dye-Metal Complex + Protein         (Reddish-Brown Color)       (Basic & (Basic & Hydrophobic Residues)       pH 2.5       Oye-Metal-Protein Complex (Green Color)         Response of Poly L - Amino Acids       8       Poly L - Glutamic acid         3.5       9       Poly L - Arginine         2.5       9       Poly L - Lysine         1.5       0.5       Poly L - Histidine	STEP 1. Protein + $Cu^{+2} \xrightarrow{OH^-} Cu^{+1}$ STEP 2. $Cu^{+1} + 2BCA^*$ $-00C - Cu^{+1} + Cu^{+2} \xrightarrow{OH^-} Cu^{-1}$	STEP 1. Protein + $Cu^{+2} \xrightarrow{OH^-} Cu^{+1}$ STEP 2. $Cu^{+1} + 2BCA^{*} \xrightarrow{OH^-} Cu^{-1} \xrightarrow{Cu^{-1}} Cu^{-$	STEP 1. Protein + $Cu^{+2} \xrightarrow{OH^-} Cu^{+1}$ STEP 2. $Cu^{+1} + 2BCA^{*} \xrightarrow{OUC} Cu^{+1} \xrightarrow{Cu^{+1}} Cu^{-1} \xrightarrow{Cu^{+1}} \xrightarrow{Cu^{+1}} \xrightarrow{Cu^{-1}} \xrightarrow{Cu^{+1}} $	Protein Basic and Aromatic Side Chains H BLUE Protein Due Protein Due Protein Due Protein Due Protein Due Protein Due C2H <sub>5</sub> C2H <sub>5</sub> C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0 C0	Protein Basic and Aromatic Side Chains $H_{2C} \rightarrow H_{2C} \rightarrow H_{2$	Protein       + $Cu^{+2}$ OH <sup>-</sup> Tetradentate Cu^{+1} Complex         Tetradentate Cu^{+1} Complex       + $MO^{+6}/W^{+6}$ Image: Cu^{+1} Complex         Tetradentate Cu^{+1} Complex       + $MO^{+6}/W^{+6}$ Image: Cu^{+1} Cu^{
	Poly L - Amino Acid (µg) Based on binding of proprietary dye-metal complex to protein at an acidic pH that causes a shift in the absorption maximum of the dye to 660nm. The dye changes color from reddish brown to green upon protein binding.	A <sub>max</sub> = 562nm Based on the reduction of Cu <sup>2+</sup> to Cu <sup>1+</sup> by proteins at an alkaline pH. Two bicinchoninic acid (BCA) molecules chelate the Cu <sup>+1</sup> ion to form a purple complex.	A <sub>max</sub> = 562nm Based on the reduction of Cu <sup>2+</sup> to Cu <sup>1+</sup> by protein at an alkaline pH. Two BCA molecules chelate the Cu <sup>1+</sup> ion to form a purple complex.	A <sub>max</sub> = 562nm Based on the reduction of Cu <sup>2+</sup> to Cu <sup>1+</sup> by proteins at an alkaline pH. The Cu <sup>1+</sup> ion is chelated by two BCA molecules to form a tetradentate purple complex.	Based on the direct binding of the coomassie dye to protein tertiary structure and specific amino acids. The dye changes color from brown to blue upon protein binding.	Based on the direct binding of the coomassie dye to protein tertiary structure and specific amino acids. The dye changes color from brown to blue upon binding to protein at an acidic pH.	(phosphomolybdic/phosphotungstic acid) $A_{max}=750$ nm Based on the reduction of Cu <sup>2+</sup> to Cu <sup>1+</sup> in the presence of proteins at an alkaline pH. The biuret reagent chelates the Cu <sup>1+</sup> ion to form a complex. The Folin-Ciocalteu reagent is added to enhance blue color formation.
Typical Standard Curves Prepared Using Pre-Diluted BSA and BGG Standard Sets	(uuog) aueroparticipation (uuog) aueropartic	Generative Sector Secto	1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	1.6 1.4 1.2 1.6 1.4 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2	1.75 1.00 1.25 1.00 0.75 0.50 0.00 0.25 0.00 0.00 0.25 0.00	1.75 1.50 1.25 1.00 0.75 0.50 0.00 0.75 0.50 0.00 1.50 0.00	3.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
Detection Range	25-2,000µg/mL	20-2,000µg/mL or 5-250µg/mL	0.5-20µg/mL	125-2,000µg/mL	100-1,500µg/mL or 1-25µg/mL	100-1,500µg/mL or 1-25µg/mL	1-1,500µg/mL
<section-header></section-header>	2-D sample buffer' undiluted         M-PER" Reagent         1:2           2-Mercaptoethanol         1M         n-Acetylglucosamine         100mM           Acetone         50%         Na acidate pH 4.8         100mM           Acetonitine         50%         Na acidate pH 4.8         100mM           Acetonitine         50%         Na acidate pH 4.8         100mM           Acetonitine         500mM         Na carb-bicarbonate         100mM           Ascorbic acid         500mM         Na citrate-personate         0           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         50mM         Na citrate-acronate         0           Borate (50m)         undiluted         PH 5"         Na citrate-acronate         0           B-PER" Reagent         1:22         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         125mM           B-PER" Reagent I         1:2         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         125mM           Brij"-56         n/a         000C)         0.25%           Giff         65 n/a         00C/ER         000M           Brij"-56         n/a         0.25%         0ctyltinoglucoside         10mM           Gatum chloride         0.031%         Nickel chloride         10mM           Gatum chloride         00mM         0.05%         0cty	2-D sample buffer <sup>1</sup> n/a         M-PER Reagent         undiluted           2-Mercaptoethanol         0.01%         n-Acetylglucosamine         10mM           Aceton         10%         Na acietae pH 4.8         200mM           Acetonitrile         10%         Na acietae pH 4.8         200mM           Aprotinin         10mg/L         Ma citrate pH 4.8         200mM           Ascorbic acid         0         Na citrate-carbonate         undiluted           Assorbic acid         0         Na citrate-carbonate         1.8           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         33mM         Na citrate-carbonate         1.8           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         33mM         Na citrate-carbonate         1.8           PH 9         Activate-carbonate         1.8         PH 9         1.8           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         33mM         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         5%           Ma deoxycholate (DOC)         5%         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         100mM           Brij-35         10%         NE-PER Reagent         undiluted           Mi 30/droxide (NAOH)         00mM         10%         Ne-PER Reagent         undiluted           Mi 30/droxide (NAOH)         100mM         Intickel choride         10mM         Ne-PER Reagent         0	2-D sample buffer         n/a         Na acctate pH 4.8         200mM           2-Mercaptoethanol         1mM         Na azide         0.20%           Aceton         1%         Na acitate pH 4.8         200mM           Acetonitrile         1%         Na acitate pH 4.8         200mM           Acetonitrile         1%         Na acitate pH 4.8         5mM           Acetonitrile         1%         Na acitate-carbonate         1600           Aportalini         1mg/L         Na citrate-carbonate         1.600           Ascorbic acid         0         Na citrate-carbonate         1.600           Bis-Tis pH 6.5         0.2mM         Na deoxycholate (00C)         5%           Borate (50mM) pH 8.5         1.4         Na deoxycholate (00C)         5%           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         SomM         Na phosphate         100mM           B-PER Reagent         1/4         Na Peres Reagent (NER)         Na           B-PER Reagent PBS         1/4         Na Peres Reagent (NER)         Na           Brij-35         1%         Na broadate         100mM           Min TBS pH 7.2)         Cellonoide         0         Na orthovanadate         1mM           Calcium chloride         10         0	2-D sample buffer*         n/a         Na acide         0.01%           ACES, pH 7.8         0         Na acide         0.01%           Acetonifile         30%         Na acide         10.01%           Acetonifile         30%         Na acide         10.01%           Aprotinin         0         Na citrate pH 4.8         50mM           Ascorbic acid         n/a         Na acitrate carbonate         0           Asparagine         0         Na acitrate-acronate         0           Bis-ris pH 6.5         16.5mM         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         n/a           Borate (50mM) pH 8.5         0         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         Na hydroxide (NaOH)           B-PER Reagent         1:3         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         Na hydroxide (NaOH)         Na hydroxide (NaOH)           Brij-56         n/a         NP-40         Ne-PER Reagent (NER)         1:4           Brij-56         n/a         NP-40         Oct/Heta-glucoside"         2:5% (10)           Calcium chloride         1m         Na -orthovanadate         0, NP-40         SomM           Cesiypridinium chloride         n/a         Na acitae-buffered undiiuted saline (PBS)*         SomM           Chards         1/2.2         Nm         Na         <	2-D sample buffer'         n/a           2-Mercaptoethanol         11/n           ACES, pH 7.8         100mM           Na actate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetoni 11/e         10%           Na azide         0.5%           Acetoni 11/e         10%           Aprotinin         10mM           Ascorbic acid         50mM           Ascorbic acid         50mM           Bicine         100mM           Bicrins pH 6.5         0.016%           Na deoxycholate (DOC)         0.4%           Brij 35         0.062%           Bromophenol blue         0           In SomM NaOH)         Nickel choride         10mM           Calcium choride         10mM           In TSB PH 7.2)         PER Reagent         1mM           Calcium choride         10mM           Calcium choride         10mM <t< th=""><th>2-D sample buffer<sup>1</sup>         n/a           2-Mercaptoethanol         IM           Accens         100mM           Na acetate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonic         10%           Na acitate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonic         10%           Na acitate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonicin         10mM           Ascorbic acid         50mM           Asparagine         10mM           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         100mM           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         100mM           Borate (50mM)         undiluted           H 5.5         Na deoxycholate         0.05%           B-PER Reagent         1:2           Na lydroxide (NaOH)         100mM           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         100mM           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         0.05%           D-PER Reagent II         10           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         Na hydroxide (NaOH)           Brij-58         0.031%           Brig-58         0.031%           Romphenol blue         0           Calcium chloride         10mM           (n BS pH 7.2)         NP-40         0.5%           Cesium bicotonate 100mM         0.05%     &lt;</th><th>2-D sample buffer'         n/a         n-Acetylglucosamine         n/a           2-Mercaptoethanol         1mM         Na acetate pH 4.8         200mM           Acetone         10%         Na azide         0.2%           Acetonitile         10%         Na citrate-MOPS         n/a           Ascorbic azid         1mM         Na citrate-MOPS         n/a           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         n/a         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         n/a           Brets (SOMM) pH 8.5         n/a         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         n/a           Brij-58         0.062%         Ne-PER Reagent (NA)         Ne-PER Reagent (NA)           Brij-58         0.062%         Ne-dothovanadate         n/a           Calcium choirde         n/a         Na -dothovanadate         n/a           Calcium choirde         n/a         Na-dothovanadate         n/a           Charps 0         0.062%         Ne-Der Reagent         n/a           Charps 0</th></t<>	2-D sample buffer <sup>1</sup> n/a           2-Mercaptoethanol         IM           Accens         100mM           Na acetate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonic         10%           Na acitate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonic         10%           Na acitate pH 4.8         180mM           Acetonicin         10mM           Ascorbic acid         50mM           Asparagine         10mM           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         100mM           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         100mM           Borate (50mM)         undiluted           H 5.5         Na deoxycholate         0.05%           B-PER Reagent         1:2           Na lydroxide (NaOH)         100mM           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         100mM           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         0.05%           D-PER Reagent II         10           Na hydroxide (NaOH)         Na hydroxide (NaOH)           Brij-58         0.031%           Brig-58         0.031%           Romphenol blue         0           Calcium chloride         10mM           (n BS pH 7.2)         NP-40         0.5%           Cesium bicotonate 100mM         0.05%     <	2-D sample buffer'         n/a         n-Acetylglucosamine         n/a           2-Mercaptoethanol         1mM         Na acetate pH 4.8         200mM           Acetone         10%         Na azide         0.2%           Acetonitile         10%         Na citrate-MOPS         n/a           Ascorbic azid         1mM         Na citrate-MOPS         n/a           Bis-Tris pH 6.5         n/a         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         n/a           Brets (SOMM) pH 8.5         n/a         Na deoxycholate (DOC)         n/a           Brij-58         0.062%         Ne-PER Reagent (NA)         Ne-PER Reagent (NA)           Brij-58         0.062%         Ne-dothovanadate         n/a           Calcium choirde         n/a         Na -dothovanadate         n/a           Calcium choirde         n/a         Na-dothovanadate         n/a           Charps 0         0.062%         Ne-Der Reagent         n/a           Charps 0



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## Life Science Research

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Concentrations listed refer to the actual concentration in the protein sample that is compatible with the assay.

- n/a Compound was not tested in this assay.
- Ø Compound that is not compatible at the lowest concentration tested.
- Value when the 660nm Assay is run using the ionic detergent compatibility reagent (IDCR, Part No. 22663).
- Selected values for the regular BCA-RAC Kit are given in parentheses in the column for the Microplate BCA-RAC. <u>+</u>+ ŧ
- Compound (buffer) whose formulation is described more fully in the following table:

Buffer	Formulation			
2-D sample buffer	(8M urea, 4% CHAPS) or (7M urea, 2M thiourea, 4% CHAPS)			
Laemmli SDS sample buffer	65mM Tris-HCl, 10% glycerol, 2% SDS, 0.025% bromophenol blue			
MES-buffered saline pH 4.7	0.1M MES, 150mM NaCl pH 4.7			
Modified Dulbecco's PBS	8mM sodium phosphate, 2mM potassium phosphate, 0.14M NaCl, 10mM KCl, pH 7.4			
Na carb-bicarb pH 9.4	0.2M sodium carbonate-bicarbonate pH 9.4			
Na citrate-carbonate pH 9	0.6M sodium citrate, 0.1M sodium-carbonate pH 9			
Na citrate-MOPS pH 7.5	0.6M sodium citrate 0.1M MOPS pH 7.5			
Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS)	100mM sodium phosphate, 150mM NaCl pH 7.2			
RIPA Buffer	50mM Tris, 150mM NaCl, 0.5% DOC, 1% NP40, 0.1% SDS pH 8.0			
Tris-buffered saline (TBS)	25mM Tris, 150mM NaCl pH 7.6			
Tris-glycine pH 8.0	25mM Tris, 192mM glycine pH 8.0			
Tris-glycine-SDS pH 8.3	25mM Tris, 192mM glycine, 0.1% SDS pH 8.3			
Tris-HEPES-SDS	100mM Tris, 100mM HEPES, 3mM SDS			



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