



# KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR)

## Illumina® Platforms

KR1351 – v2.17

This Technical Data Sheet provides product information and a detailed protocol for the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR or Human/Mouse/Rat) for Illumina Platforms.

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Kapa/Roche Kit Codes and Components		
<b>KK8560</b> 08098131702 24 libraries = <b>KK8542</b> 08105936001 + <b>KK8546</b> 08105863001 + <b>KK8481</b> 07962266001	Hybridization Buffer	110 µL
	Hybridization Oligos (HMR)	110 µL
	Depletion Buffer	80 µL
	RNase H	55 µL
	DNase Buffer	60 µL
	DNase	55 µL
	Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (2X)	300 µL
	1st Strand Synthesis Buffer	300 µL
	KAPA Script	25 µL
	2nd Strand Marking Buffer	780 µL
<b>KK8561</b> 08098140702 96 libraries = <b>KK8544</b> 08105952001 + <b>KK8001</b> 07983280001 + <b>KK8482</b> 07962274001	2nd Strand Synthesis & A-Tailing Enzyme Mix	50 µL
	Ligation Buffer	1 mL
	DNA Ligase	280 µL
	PEG/NaCl Solution	1 mL
	KAPA Pure Beads (2 bottles)	6.4 mL
	Library Amplification Primer Mix (10X)	138 µL
	KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X)	690 µL
	Hybridization Buffer	480 µL
	Hybridization Oligos (HMR)	480 µL
	Depletion Buffer	360 µL
RNase H	240 µL	
DNase Buffer	264 µL	
DNase	240 µL	
Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (2X)	1.4 mL	
1st Strand Synthesis Buffer	1.4 mL	
KAPA Script	130 µL	
2nd Strand Marking Buffer	3.8 mL	
2nd Strand Synthesis & A-Tailing Enzyme Mix	250 µL	
Ligation Buffer	5 mL	
DNA Ligase	1.26 mL	
PEG/NaCl Solution	5 mL	
KAPA Pure Beads	30 mL	
Library Amplification Primer Mix (10X)	600 µL	
KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X)	3 mL	

Quick Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid and easily automatable protocol enables stranded RNA library construction in approximately 6.5 hrs.</li> <li>• This protocol is suitable for the depletion of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) from 25 ng – 1 µg of purified total human, mouse, or rat RNA (HMR).</li> <li>• Suitable for high- and low-quality RNA samples, including FFPE. Results may vary depending on the input amount and quality.</li> <li>• Accurate strand origin information maintained using dUTP incorporation during 2nd strand synthesis.</li> <li>• This kit contains KAPA Pure Beads for reaction cleanups, along with all reagents needed for library construction and high-efficiency, low-bias library amplification, except for adapters. KAPA Adapters are sold separately.</li> <li>• Not compatible with small RNAs &lt;100 bp in length.</li> </ul>

## Product Description

The KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) for Illumina sequencing contains all of the buffers and enzymes required for depletion of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) and the rapid construction of stranded RNA-Seq libraries from 25 ng – 1 µg of purified total RNA via the following steps:

1. depletion of rRNA by hybridization of complementary DNA oligonucleotides, followed by treatment with RNase H and DNase to remove rRNA duplexed to DNA and original DNA oligonucleotides, respectively;
2. fragmentation using heat and magnesium;
3. 1st strand cDNA synthesis using random priming;
4. combined 2nd strand synthesis and A-tailing, which converts the cDNA:RNA hybrid to double-stranded cDNA (dscDNA), incorporates dUTP into the second cDNA strand for stranded RNA sequencing, and adds dAMP to the 3' ends of the resulting dscDNA;
5. adapter ligation, where dsDNA adapters with 3' dTMP overhangs are ligated to library insert fragments; and
6. library amplification, to amplify library fragments carrying appropriate adapter sequences at both ends using high-fidelity, low-bias PCR. The strand marked with dUTP is not amplified, allowing strand-specific sequencing.

The kit provides KAPA Pure Beads for reaction cleanups, along with all of the enzymes and buffers required for rRNA depletion, cDNA synthesis, library construction and amplification, but does not include RNA or adapters. KAPA Adapters are sold separately.

Reaction buffers are supplied in convenient formats comprising all of the required reaction components. This minimizes the risk of RNase contamination, ensures consistent and homogenous reaction composition, and improves uniformity among replicate samples. Similarly, a single enzyme mixture is provided for each step of the library construction process, reducing the number of pipetting steps.

In order to maximize sequence coverage uniformity and to maintain relative transcript abundance, it is critical that library amplification bias be kept to a minimum. KAPA HiFi DNA Polymerase has been designed for low-bias, high-fidelity PCR and is the polymerase of choice for NGS library amplification<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>. The KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) includes KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X) and Library Amplification Primer Mix (10X) for library amplification.

1. Oyola, S.O., et al., *BMC Genomics* **13**, 1 (2012).
2. Quail, M.A., et al., *Nature Methods* **9**, 10 – 11 (2012).
3. Quail, M.A., et al., *BMC Genomics* **13**, 341 (2012).
4. Ross, M.G., et al., *Genome Biology* **14**, R51 (2013).

## Product Applications

The KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) is designed for both manual and automated NGS library construction from 25 ng – 1 µg of total RNA. The kit depletes both cytoplasmic (5S, 5.8S, 18S, and 28S), and mitochondrial (12S and 16S) rRNA species. The protocol is applicable to a wide range of RNA-Seq applications, including:

- gene expression analysis of high- and low-quality RNA samples (e.g., extracted from FFPE tissue);
- single nucleotide variation (SNV) discovery;
- splice junction and gene fusion identification; and
- characterization of both polyadenylated and non-polyadenylated RNAs, including noncoding and immature RNAs.

This kit is not compatible with small RNAs <100 bp in length.

## Product Specifications

### Shipping and Storage

KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kits with RiboErase (HMR) are supplied in multiple boxes:

Contents	Storage upon receipt
rRNA depletion reagents	-15°C to -25°C
cDNA synthesis and library preparation reagents	-15°C to -25°C
KAPA Pure Beads	2°C to 8°C

KAPA Pure Beads are shipped on dry ice or ice packs, depending on the destination country. **Upon receipt, store KAPA Pure Beads at 2°C to 8°C.** Boxes containing enzymes and buffers for rRNA depletion, cDNA synthesis, and library preparation are shipped on dry ice or ice packs, depending on the destination country. These components are temperature sensitive, and appropriate care should be taken during storage. **Upon receipt, store the enzymes and buffers for rRNA depletion, cDNA synthesis, and library preparation at -15°C to -25°C** in a constant-temperature freezer. The 1st Strand Synthesis Buffer, PEG/NaCl Solution, and KAPA Pure Beads are light-sensitive and should be protected from light during storage. When stored under these conditions and handled correctly, the kit components will retain full activity until the expiry date indicated on the kit label.

### Handling

Reagents for rRNA depletion, cDNA synthesis, and library preparation **must be stored at -15°C to -25°C**, as these components are temperature sensitive. Ensure that all components have been fully thawed and thoroughly mixed before use. Keep all reaction components and master mixes on ice whenever possible during handling and preparation, unless specified otherwise.

KAPA Pure Beads **must be stored at 2°C to 8°C, and not at -15°C to -25°C.** Equilibrate KAPA Pure Beads to room temperature and mix thoroughly before use. The 1st Strand Synthesis Buffer, PEG/NaCl Solution, and KAPA Pure Beads are light sensitive, and appropriate care must be taken to minimize light exposure. Similar care should be observed for the 1st strand synthesis master mix.

KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X) may not freeze completely, even when stored at -15°C to -25°C. Nevertheless, always ensure that the KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X) is fully thawed and thoroughly mixed before use.

The PEG/NaCl Solution does not freeze at -15°C to -25°C, but should be equilibrated to room temperature and mixed thoroughly before use. For short-term use, the PEG/NaCl Solution may be stored at 2°C to 8°C (protected from light) for  $\leq 2$  months.

### Quality Control

All kit components are subjected to stringent functional quality control, are free of detectable contaminating exo- and endonuclease activities, and meet strict requirements with respect to DNA contamination. Reagent kits are functionally validated through construction of transcriptome libraries and sequencing on an NGS platform. Please contact Technical Support at [sequencing.roche.com/support](https://sequencing.roche.com/support) for more information.

## Important Parameters

### Input RNA Requirements

- The protocol has been validated for library construction from 25 ng – 1 µg of total RNA in ≤10 µL of RNase-free water.
- The quantity of rRNA in a total RNA sample can vary significantly between samples. An input of 25 ng – 1 µg of total RNA is recommended to ensure that sufficient rRNA-depleted RNA is available for downstream library preparation.
- RNA in volumes >10 µL should be concentrated to 10 µL prior to use by either ethanol precipitation, bead purification (e.g., KAPA Pure Beads or RNAClean XP beads, Beckman Coulter), or column-based methods (e.g., RNeasy MinElute Cleanup Kit, QIAGEN). Note that some loss of material is inevitable when using any of the above methods to concentrate RNA.
- When concentrating RNA, elute in 12 µL of RNase-free water to ensure that 10 µL is available for use with this protocol.
- It is recommended to assess the quality and size distribution of the input RNA prior to rRNA depletion by an electrophoretic method (e.g., Agilent Bioanalyzer RNA assay).
- The quality of RNA extracted from formalin-fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue can be highly variable due to the damaging nature of the formalin fixation process, where crosslinking, chemical modification, and fragmentation can occur. Library construction results may vary depending on the input amount and quality of the RNA. Increasing the input amount of RNA (up to 1 µg) may salvage library construction with particularly difficult FFPE samples.

### RNA Handling

- RNases are ubiquitous and special care should be taken throughout the procedure to avoid RNase contamination.
- To avoid airborne RNase contamination, keep all reagents and RNA samples closed when not in use.
- Use a laminar flow hood if available, or prepare a sterile and RNase-free area. Clean the workspace, pipettes, and other equipment with an RNase removal product (e.g., RNaseZAP, Ambion Inc.) according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- To avoid RNase contamination, always wear gloves when handling reagents and use certified RNase-free plastic consumables. Change gloves after making contact with equipment or surfaces outside of the RNase-free working area.
- To mix samples containing RNA, gently pipette the reaction mixture several times. Vortexing may fragment the RNA, resulting in lower quantity and a reduced library insert size.
- To avoid degradation, minimize the number of freeze-thaw cycles and always store RNA in RNase-free water.

### RNA Fragmentation

- RNA is fragmented by incubating at a high temperature in the presence of magnesium before carrying out 1st strand cDNA synthesis.
- Fragmentation conditions given in the **Library Construction Protocol** should be used as a guideline and may require adjustment based upon the quality and size distribution of the input RNA. It is recommended that a non-precious, representative sample of RNA be evaluated for the optimal fragmentation conditions.
- For intact RNA, such as that extracted from fresh/frozen tissue, longer fragmentation is required at higher temperatures. For degraded or fragmented RNA (e.g., from older samples or FFPE tissue), use a lower temperature and/or shorter time.
- For fragmentation optimization beyond what is provided in the **Library Construction Protocol**, please refer to **Appendix: Library Size Distribution Optimization** (p. 16).

## Safe Stopping Points

The library construction process from rRNA depletion through library amplification can be performed in approximately 6.5 hrs, depending on the number of samples being processed and experience. If necessary, the protocol may be paused safely at any of the following steps:

- After elution in Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (1X), **RNA Elution, Fragmentation and Priming** (step 6.5), store the rRNA-depleted material at -15°C to -25°C for ≤24 hrs.
- After **1st Post-ligation Cleanup** (step 10), store the resuspended beads at 2°C to 8°C for ≤24 hrs.
- After **2nd Post-ligation Cleanup** (step 11), store the eluted, unamplified library at 2°C to 8°C for ≤1 week, or at -15°C to -25°C for ≤1 month.

DNA and RNA solutions containing beads must not be frozen or stored dry, as this is likely to damage the beads and result in sample loss. To resume the library construction process, centrifuge briefly to recover any condensate, and add the remaining components required for the next enzymatic reaction in the protocol.

To avoid degradation, minimize the number of freeze-thaw cycles, and always store RNA in RNase-free water and DNA in a buffered solution (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0 – 8.5).

## Reaction Setup

This kit is intended for manual and automated NGS library construction. To enable a streamlined strategy, reaction components should be combined into master mixes, rather than dispensed separately into individual reactions. When processing multiple samples, prepare a minimum of 10% excess of each master mix to allow for small inaccuracies during dispensing. Recommended volumes for 8, 24, and 96 reactions (with excess) are provided in Tables 2 – 8.

Libraries may be prepared in standard reaction vessels, including PCR tubes, strip tubes, or PCR plates. Always use plastics that are certified to be RNase- and DNase-free. Low RNA- and DNA-binding plastics are recommended. When selecting the most appropriate plastic consumables for the workflow, consider compatibility with:

- the magnet used during KAPA Pure Bead manipulations;
- vortex mixers and centrifuges, where appropriate; and
- Peltier devices or thermocyclers used for reaction incubations and/or library amplification.

## Reaction Cleanups

- This protocol has been validated for use with KAPA Pure Beads. Solutions and conditions for nucleic acid binding may differ if other beads are used.
- Cleanup steps should be performed in a timely manner to ensure that enzymatic reactions do not proceed beyond optimal incubation times.
- Observe all storage and handling recommendations for KAPA Pure Beads. Equilibration to room temperature is essential to achieve specified size distribution and yield of libraries.
- Beads will settle gradually; ensure that they are fully resuspended before use.
- **To ensure optimal nucleic acid recovery, it is critical that the nucleic acid and KAPA Pure Beads are thoroughly mixed** (by vortexing or extensive up-and-down pipetting) before the nucleic acid binding incubation.
- Bead incubation times are guidelines only, and may be modified/optimized according to current protocols, previous experience, specific equipment and samples in order to maximize library construction efficiency and throughput.
- The time required for complete capture of magnetic beads varies according to the reaction vessel and magnet used. It is important not to discard or transfer any beads with the removal of the supernatant. Capture times should be optimized accordingly.
- The volumes of 80% ethanol for the bead washes may be adjusted to accommodate smaller reaction vessels and/or limiting pipetting capacity, but it is important that the beads are entirely submerged during the wash steps. **Always use freshly prepared 80% ethanol.**
- It is important to remove all ethanol before proceeding with subsequent reactions. However, over-drying of beads may make them difficult to resuspend, and may result in a dramatic loss of sample. With optimized aspiration of ethanol, drying of beads for 3 – 5 min at room temperature should be sufficient. **Drying beads at 37°C is not recommended.**
- Where appropriate, DNA should be eluted from beads in elution buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0 – 8.5). Elution of DNA in PCR-grade water is not recommended, as DNA is unstable in unbuffered solutions. Purified DNA in elution buffer should be stable at 2°C to 8°C for 1 – 2 weeks, or at -15°C to -25°C for long-term storage. The long-term stability of library DNA at -15°C to -25°C depends on a number of factors, including library concentration. Always use low DNA-binding tubes for long-term storage, and avoid excessive freezing and thawing.



## Adapter Design and Concentration

- KAPA Adapters are recommended for use with the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR). However, the kit is also compatible with other full-length adapter designs wherein both the sequencing and cluster generation sequences are added during the ligation step, such as those routinely used in TruSeq (Illumina), SeqCap EZ (Roche) and SureSelect XT2 (Agilent) kits, and other similar library construction workflows. Custom adapters that are of similar design and are compatible with “TA-ligation” of dsDNA may also be used, remembering that custom adapter designs may impact library construction efficiency. Truncated adapter designs, where cluster generation sequences are added during amplification instead of ligation, may require modified post-ligation cleanup conditions. For assistance with adapter compatibility, ordering, and duplexing, please contact Technical Support at [sequencing.roche.com/support](http://sequencing.roche.com/support).
- Adapter concentration affects ligation efficiency, as well as adapter and adapter-dimer carryover during post-ligation cleanups. The optimal adapter concentration for the workflow represents a compromise between the above factors and cost.
- Adapter quality has an impact on the effective concentration of adapter available for ligation. Always source the highest quality adapters from a reliable supplier, dilute and store adapters in a buffered solution with the requisite ionic strength, and avoid excessive freezing and thawing of adapter stock solutions.
- Adapter-dimer formation may occur when using highly degraded RNA inputs, such as RNA extracted from FFPE tissue, or input amounts lower than the validated range (25 ng). If adapter-dimers are present, as evidenced by a sharp 120 to 140 bp peak in the final library, perform a second 1X bead cleanup post amplification to remove small products. Adapter-dimer formation can be prevented in future library preparations by reducing the amount of adapter in the ligation reaction.

## Library Amplification

- KAPA HiFi HotStart, the enzyme provided in the KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X), is an antibody-based hot start formulation of KAPA HiFi DNA Polymerase, a novel B-family DNA polymerase engineered for increased processivity and high fidelity. KAPA HiFi HotStart DNA Polymerase has 5'→3' polymerase and 3'→5' exonuclease (proofreading) activities, but no 5'→3' exonuclease activity. The strong 3'→5' exonuclease activity results in superior accuracy during DNA amplification. The error rate of KAPA HiFi HotStart DNA Polymerase is  $2.8 \times 10^{-7}$  errors/base, equivalent to 1 error per  $3.5 \times 10^6$  nucleotides incorporated.
- Library Amplification Primer Mix (10X) is designed to eliminate or delay primer depletion during library amplification reactions performed with KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X). The primer mix is suitable for the amplification of all Illumina libraries flanked by the P5 and P7 flow cell sequences. Primers are supplied at a 10X concentration of 20  $\mu$ M each, and have been formulated as described below. User-supplied primers may be used in combination with custom adapters. Please contact Technical Support at [kapabiosystems.com/support](http://kapabiosystems.com/support) for guidelines on the formulation of user-supplied library amplification primers.
- To achieve optimal amplification efficiency and avoid primer depletion, it is critical to use an optimal concentration of high-quality primers. Primers should be used at a final concentration of 0.5 – 4  $\mu$ M each.
- Library amplification primers should be HPLC-purified and modified to include a phosphorothioate bond at the 3'-terminal of each primer (to prevent degradation by the strong proofreading activity of KAPA HiFi HotStart). Always store and dilute primers in buffered solution (e.g., 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0 – 8.5), and limit the number of freeze-thaw cycles. To achieve the latter, store primers at 4°C for short-term use, or as single-use aliquots at -20°C.
- In library amplification reactions (set up according to the recommended protocol), primers are typically depleted before dNTPs. When DNA synthesis can no longer take place due to substrate depletion, subsequent rounds of DNA denaturation and annealing result in the separation of complementary DNA strands, followed by the imperfect annealing to non-complementary partners. This presumably results in the formation of so-called “daisy chains” or “tangled knots”, comprising large assemblies of improperly annealed, partially double-stranded, heteroduplex DNA. These species migrate slower and are observed as secondary, higher molecular weight peaks during electrophoretic analysis of amplified libraries. However, they typically

comprise library molecules of the desired length, which are individualized during denaturation prior to cluster amplification. Since these heteroduplexes contain significant portions of single-stranded DNA, over-amplification leads to the under-quantification of library molecules with assays employing dsDNA-binding dyes. qPCR-based library quantification methods, such as the KAPA Library Quantification assay, quantify DNA by denaturation and amplification, thereby providing an accurate measure of the amount of adapter-ligated molecules in a library—even if the library was over-amplified.

- Excessive library amplification can result in other unwanted artifacts, such as amplification bias, PCR duplicates, chimeric library inserts, and nucleotide substitutions. The extent of library amplification should therefore be limited as much as possible, while ensuring that sufficient material is generated for QC and downstream processing.
- If cycled to completion (*not recommended*), one 50 µL library amplification PCR—performed as described in **Library Amplification** (step 12)—can produce 8–10 µg of amplified library. To minimize over-amplification and its associated, undesired artifacts, the number of amplification cycles should be tailored to produce the optimal amount of final library required for downstream processes.
- The number of cycles recommended in Table 1 should be used as a guide for library amplification. Cycle numbers may require adjustment depending on library RNA input quality, amplification efficiency, presence of adapter-dimer, and the desired yield post amplification. Quantification of material after the second post-ligation cleanup using a qPCR assay, such as the KAPA Library Quantification Kit, can help to determine the number of amplification cycles required for a specific sample type or application.

## Evaluating the Success of Library Construction

- A specific library construction workflow should be tailored and optimized to yield a sufficient amount of adapter-ligated molecules of the desired size distribution for sequencing, QC, and archiving purposes.
- The size distribution of final libraries should be confirmed with an electrophoretic method. A LabChip GX, GXII, or GX Touch (PerkinElmer), Bioanalyzer or TapeStation (Agilent Technologies), Fragment Analyzer (Advanced Analytical Technologies) or similar instrument is recommended over conventional gels.
- KAPA Library Quantification Kits for Illumina platforms are recommended for qPCR-based quantification of libraries generated with the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR). These kits employ primers based on the Illumina flow cell oligos and can be used to quantify libraries that:
  - are ready for flow-cell amplification, and/or
  - were constructed with full-length adapters, once ligation has been completed (i.e., after the post-ligation cleanup or after library amplification cleanup).
- The availability of quantification data before and after library amplification allows the two major phases of the library construction process to be evaluated and optimized independently to achieve the desired yield of amplified library with minimal bias.

Table 1. Recommended library amplification cycles

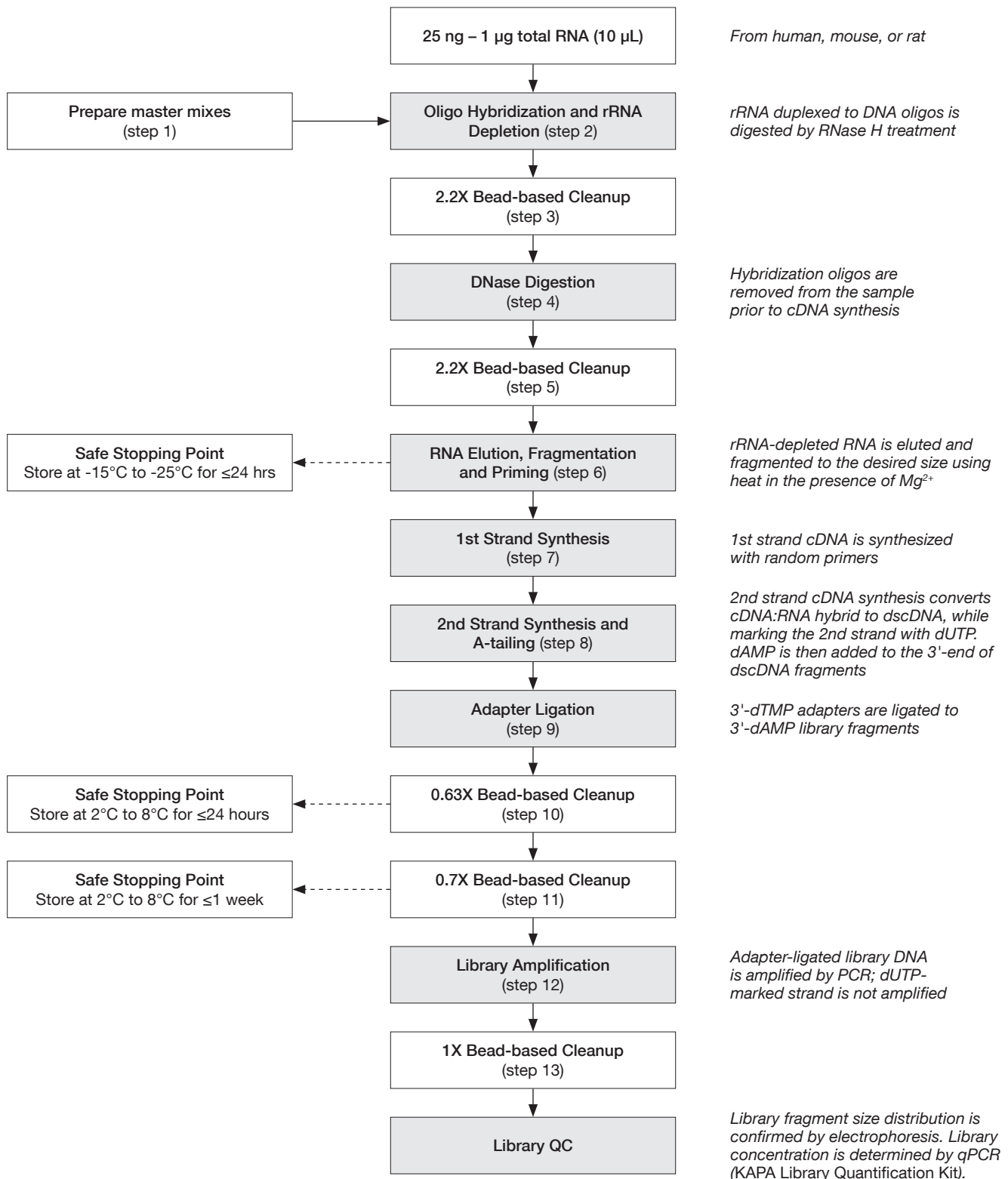
Quantity of starting material	Number of cycles
25 – 100 ng	11 – 15
101 – 250 ng	9 – 12
251 – 500 ng	7 – 10
501 – 1000 ng	6 – 8

# KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR)

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## Process Workflow





## Library Construction Protocol

### 1. Reagent Preparation

This protocol takes approximately 6.5 hrs to complete. Ideally, master mixes for the various steps in the process should be prepared as required.

For maximum stability and shelf-life, enzymes and reaction buffers are supplied separately in the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR). For a streamlined protocol, a reagent master

mix with a minimum of 10% excess is prepared for each of these enzymatic steps, as outlined in Tables 2 – 8. Volumes of additional reagents required for the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) protocol are listed in Table 9.

Always ensure that KAPA Pure Beads and PEG/NaCl Solution are fully equilibrated to room temperature before use.

Table 2. Oligo hybridization

Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>Hybridization master mix:</b>					
Hybridization Buffer	4 µL	35.2 µL	106 µL	423 µL	N*4.4 µL
Hybridization Oligos (HMR)	4 µL	35.2 µL	106 µL	423 µL	N*4.4 µL
RNase-free water	2 µL	17.6 µL	53 µL	211 µL	N*2.2 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>10 µL</b>	<b>88 µL</b>	<b>265 µL</b>	<b>1057 µL</b>	<b>N*11 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
Hybridization master mix	10 µL				
Total RNA	10 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>20 µL</b>				

Table 3. rRNA depletion

Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>Depletion master mix</b>					
Depletion Buffer	3 µL	26.4 µL	80 µL	317 µL	N*3.3 µL
RNase H	2 µL	17.6 µL	53 µL	211 µL	N*2.2 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>5 µL</b>	<b>44 µL</b>	<b>133 µL</b>	<b>528 µL</b>	<b>N*5.5 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
Depletion master mix	5 µL				
Total RNA hybridized to oligos	20 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>25 µL</b>				

Table 4. DNase digestion

Component:	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>DNase digestion master mix</b>					
DNase Buffer	2.2 µL	19.4 µL	58 µL	232 µL	N*2.42 µL
DNase	2 µL	17.6 µL	53 µL	211 µL	N*2.2 µL
RNase-free water	17.8 µL	157 µL	470 µL	1880 µL	N*19.58 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>22 µL</b>	<b>194 µL</b>	<b>581 µL</b>	<b>2323 µL</b>	<b>N*24.2</b>
<b>Resuspend beads in a volume of:</b>	<b>22 µL</b>				

Table 5. 1st strand synthesis

Component	1 library <i>Inc. 20% excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 20% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 20% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 20% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 20% excess</i>
<b>1st strand synthesis master mix:</b>					
1st Strand Synthesis Buffer	11 µL	88 µL	264 µL	1056 µL	N*11 µL
KAPA Script	1 µL	8 µL	24 µL	96 µL	N*1 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>12 µL</b>	<b>96 µL</b>	<b>288 µL</b>	<b>1152 µL</b>	<b>N*12 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
1st strand synthesis master mix	10 µL				
Fragmented, primed RNA	20 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>30 µL</b>				

Table 6. 2nd strand synthesis and A-tailing

Component	1 library <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>2nd strand synthesis and A-tailing master mix:</b>					
2nd Strand Marking Buffer	31 µL	248 µL	744 µL	2976 µL	N*31 µL
2nd Strand Synthesis & A-Tailing Enzyme Mix	2 µL	16 µL	48 µL	192 µL	N*2 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>33 µL</b>	<b>264 µL</b>	<b>792 µL</b>	<b>3168 µL</b>	<b>N*33 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
2nd strand synthesis master mix	30 µL				
1st strand cDNA	30 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>60 µL</b>				

Table 7. Adapter ligation

Component	1 library <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>Adapter ligation master mix:</b>					
Ligation Buffer	40 µL	320 µL	960 µL	3840 µL	N*40 µL
DNA Ligase	10 µL	80 µL	240 µL	960 µL	N*10 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>50 µL</b>	<b>400 µL</b>	<b>1200 µL</b>	<b>4800 µL</b>	<b>N*50 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
Adapter ligation master mix	45 µL				
A-tailed dscDNA	60 µL				
Adapter, 1.5 µM or 7 uM, see step 9.1	5 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>110 µL</b>				

Table 8. Library amplification

Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. 10% excess</i>
<b>Library amplification master mix:</b>					
KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (2X)	25 µL	220 µL	660 µL	2640 µL	N*27.5 µL
Library Amplification Primer Mix (10X)	5 µL	44 µL	132 µL	528 µL	N*5.5 µL
<b>Total master mix volume:</b>	<b>30 µL</b>	<b>264 µL</b>	<b>792 µL</b>	<b>3168 µL</b>	<b>N*33 µL</b>
<b>Final reaction composition: Per reaction</b>					
Library amplification master mix	30 µL				
Adapter-ligated DNA	20 µL				
<b>Total reaction volume:</b>	<b>50 µL</b>				

Table 9. Volumes of additional reagents required

Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>
<b>KAPA Pure Beads (provided in kit):</b>					
rRNA depletion cleanups	99 µL	880 µL	2.6 mL	10.5 mL	N*108.9 µL
1st post-ligation cleanup	70 µL	620 µL	1.9 mL	7.4 mL	N*77 µL
Library amplification cleanup	50 µL	440 µL	1.4 mL	5.3 mL	N*55 µL
<b>Total volume required:</b>	<b>219 µL</b>	<b>1940 µL</b>	<b>6.0 mL</b>	<b>23.3 mL</b>	<b>N*241 µL</b>
Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>
<b>PEG/NaCl Solution (provided in kit):</b>					
2nd post-ligation cleanup	35 µL	310 µL	930 µL	3.7 mL	N*38.5 µL
<b>Total volume required:</b>	<b>35 µL</b>	<b>310 µL</b>	<b>930 µL</b>	<b>3.7 mL</b>	<b>N*38.5 µL</b>
Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>
<b>80% ethanol (freshly prepared; not supplied):</b>					
rRNA depletion cleanups	0.8 mL	7.0 mL	21.1 mL	84.5 mL	N*0.9 mL
1st post-ligation cleanup	0.4 mL	3.6 mL	10.6 mL	42.3 mL	N*0.5 mL
2nd post-ligation cleanup	0.4 mL	3.6 mL	10.6 mL	42.3 mL	N*0.5 mL
Library amplification cleanup	0.4 mL	3.6 mL	10.6 mL	42.3 mL	N*0.5 mL
<b>Total volume required:</b>	<b>2.0 mL</b>	<b>18.0 mL</b>	<b>53.0 mL</b>	<b>211.5 mL</b>	<b>N*2.2 mL</b>
Component	1 library <i>No excess</i>	8 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	24 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	96 libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>	N libraries <i>Inc. ≥10% excess</i>
<b>Elution buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0 – 8.5; not supplied):</b>					
1st post-ligation cleanup	50 µL	440 µL	1.4 mL	5.3 mL	N*55 µL
2nd post-ligation cleanup	22 µL	200 µL	0.6 mL	2.4 mL	N*25 µL
Library amplification cleanup	22 µL	200 µL	0.6 mL	2.4 mL	N*25 µL
<b>Total volume required:</b>	<b>94 µL</b>	<b>840 µL</b>	<b>2.6 mL</b>	<b>10.1 mL</b>	<b>N*105 µL</b>

## 2. Oligo Hybridization and rRNA Depletion

This protocol requires 25 ng – 1 µg of total RNA, in 10 µL of RNase-free water.

*Ensure that the hybridization master mix (Table 2) and the depletion master mix (Table 3) are prepared and kept at room temperature before use.*

2.1 Program a thermocycler as follows:

Step	Temp.	Duration
Hybridization	95°C	2 min
Ramp down to 45°C at -0.1°C/s		
PAUSE	45°C	∞
Depletion	45°C	30 min
HOLD	4°C	∞

2.2 Assemble rRNA Hybridization reactions as follows:

Component	Volume
Total RNA in water	10 µL
Hybridization master mix at room temperature (Table 2)	10 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>20 µL</b>

2.3 Place samples in the pre-programmed thermocycler and execute the program.

2.4 Ensure the depletion master mix containing RNase H is added while the samples are kept at 45°C in a thermocycler. When the program reaches the pause step at 45°C, add the following to each 20 µL hybridization reaction and mix thoroughly by pipetting up and down multiple times.

Component	Volume
Depletion master mix at room temperature (Table 3)	5 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>25 µL</b>

2.5 Resume the cycling program to continue with the depletion step (45°C for 30 min).

2.6 Proceed immediately to rRNA Depletion Cleanup (step 3).

### 3. rRNA Depletion Cleanup

3.1 Perform a 2.2X bead-based cleanup by combining the following:

Component	Volume
rRNA-depleted RNA	25 µL
KAPA Pure Beads	55 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>80 µL</b>

- 3.2 Thoroughly resuspend the beads by pipetting up and down multiple times.
- 3.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 5 min to bind RNA to the beads.
- 3.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 3.5 Carefully remove and discard 75 µL of supernatant.
- 3.6 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 µL of 80% ethanol.
- 3.7 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.
- 3.8 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol.
- 3.9 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 µL of 80% ethanol.
- 3.10 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.
- 3.11 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol. Try to remove all residual ethanol without disturbing the beads.
- 3.12 Dry the beads at room temperature for 3 – 5 min, or until all of the ethanol has evaporated. **Caution: over-drying the beads may result in reduced yield.**

### 4. DNase Digestion

To remove the hybridization oligonucleotides from the ribosomal-depleted RNA, the sample is incubated with DNase. **Ensure that the DNase digestion master mix (Table 4) is prepared and kept at room temperature.**

4.1 Assemble DNase Digestion reactions as follows:

Component	Volume
Beads with rRNA-depleted RNA	–
DNase digestion master mix at room temperature (Table 4)	22 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>22 µL</b>

4.2 Thoroughly resuspend the beads by pipetting up and down multiple times.

4.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 3 min to elute the RNA off the beads.

4.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.

4.5 Carefully transfer 20 µL of supernatant into a new plate/tube(s). Discard the plate/tube(s) with beads.

4.6 Incubate the plate/tube(s) with supernatant using the following protocol:

Step	Temp.	Duration
DNase digestion	37°C	30 min
HOLD	4°C	∞

4.7 Proceed immediately to DNase Digestion Cleanup (step 5).

### 5. DNase Digestion Cleanup

5.1 Perform a 2.2X bead-based cleanup by combining the following:

Component	Volume
DNase-treated RNA	20 µL
KAPA Pure Beads	44 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>64 µL</b>

5.2 Thoroughly resuspend the beads by pipetting up and down multiple times.

5.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 5 min to bind RNA to the beads.

5.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.

5.5 Carefully remove and discard 60 µL of supernatant.

5.6 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 µL of 80% ethanol.

5.7 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.

5.8 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol.

5.9 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 µL of 80% ethanol.

5.10 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.

5.11 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol. Try to remove all residual ethanol without disturbing the beads.

5.12 Dry the beads at room temperature for 3 – 5 min, or until all of the ethanol has evaporated. **Caution: over-drying the beads may result in reduced yield.**

## 6. RNA Elution, Fragmentation and Priming

RNA depleted of rRNA is eluted from beads in Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (1X) and fragmented to the desired size by incubation at high temperature.

- 6.1 Prepare the required volume of Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (1X) by combining the following at room temperature:

Component	Volume per sample
Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (2X)	11 µL
RNase-free Water	11 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>22 µL</b>

- 6.2 Thoroughly resuspend the beads with purified, DNase-treated RNA in 22 µL of Fragment, Prime and Elute Buffer (1X) by pipetting up and down multiple times.
- 6.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 3 min to elute RNA off the beads.
- 6.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 6.5 Carefully transfer 20 µL of supernatant into a new plate/tube(s). Discard the plate/tube(s) with beads.

### SAFE STOPPING POINT

Samples can be stored at -15°C to -25°C for ≤24 hrs. When ready, proceed to step 6.6.

- 6.6 Place the plate/tube(s) in a thermocycler and carry out the fragmentation and priming program as follows:

Input RNA type	Desired mean library insert size (bp)	Fragmentation
Intact	100 – 200	8 min at 94°C
	200 – 300	6 min at 94°C
	300 – 400	6 min at 85°C
Partially degraded	100 – 300	1 – 6 min at 85°C
Degraded (e.g., FFPE)	100 – 200	1 min at 65°C

- 6.7 Place the plate/tube(s) on ice and proceed immediately to **1st Strand Synthesis** (step 7).

## 7. 1st Strand Synthesis

- 7.1 On ice, assemble the 1st strand synthesis reaction as follows:

Component	Volume
Fragmented, primed RNA	20 µL
1st strand synthesis master mix (Table 5)	10 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>30 µL</b>

- 7.2 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on ice, mix thoroughly by gently pipetting the reaction up and down several times.
- 7.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) using the following protocol:

Step	Temp.	Duration
Primer extension	25°C	10 min
1st strand synthesis	42°C	15 min
Enzyme inactivation	70°C	15 min
HOLD	4°C	∞

- 7.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on ice, and proceed immediately to **2nd Strand Synthesis and A-tailing** (step 8).

## 8. 2nd Strand Synthesis and A-tailing

- 8.1 On ice, assemble the 2nd strand synthesis and A-tailing reaction as follows:

Component	Volume
1st strand synthesis product	30 µL
2nd strand synthesis and A-tailing master mix (Table 6)	30 µL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>60 µL</b>

- 8.2 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on ice, mix thoroughly by gently pipetting the reaction up and down several times.
- 8.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) using the following protocol:

Step	Temp.	Duration
2nd strand synthesis	16°C	30 min
A-tailing	62°C	10 min
HOLD	4°C	∞

- 8.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on ice, and proceed immediately to **Adapter Ligation** (step 9).



## 9. Adapter Ligation

- 9.1 Dilute adapters in preparation for ligation, targeting the following concentrations:

Quantity of starting material	Starting material quality	Adapter stock concentration
25 – 499 ng	Partially degraded or FFPE-derived	1.5 μM
	High-quality	1.5 μM
500 – 1000 ng	Partially degraded or FFPE-derived	1.5 μM
	High-quality	7 μM

- 9.2 On ice, set up the adapter ligation reaction as follows:

Component	Volume
2nd strand synthesis product	60 μL
Adapter ligation master mix (Table 7)	45 μL
Diluted adapter stock	5 μL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>110 μL</b>

- 9.3 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on ice, mix thoroughly by pipetting the reaction up and down several times.
- 9.4 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at 20°C for 15 min.
- 9.5 Proceed immediately to **1st Post-ligation Cleanup** (step 10).

## 10. 1st Post-ligation Cleanup

- 10.1 Perform a 0.63X bead-based cleanup by combining the following:

Component	Volume
Adapter-ligated DNA	110 μL
KAPA Pure Beads	70 μL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>180 μL</b>

- 10.2 Mix thoroughly by vortexing and/or pipetting up and down multiple times.
- 10.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 5 – 15 min to bind DNA to the beads.
- 10.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 10.5 Carefully remove and discard 175 μL of supernatant.
- 10.6 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 μL of 80% ethanol.
- 10.7 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.
- 10.8 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol.
- 10.9 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 μL of 80% ethanol.
- 10.10 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.

- 10.11 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol. Try to remove all residual ethanol without disturbing the beads.
- 10.12 Dry the beads at room temperature for 3 – 5 min, or until all of the ethanol has evaporated. **Caution: over-drying the beads may result in reduced yield.**
- 10.13 Remove the plate/tube(s) from the magnet.
- 10.14 Thoroughly resuspend the beads in 50 μL of 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0 – 8.5).
- 10.15 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 2 min to elute DNA off the beads.

## SAFE STOPPING POINT

The solution with resuspended beads can be stored at 2°C to 8°C for ≤24 hrs. Do not freeze the beads, as this can result in dramatic loss of DNA. When ready, proceed to **2nd Post-ligation Cleanup** (step 11).

## 11. 2nd Post-ligation Cleanup

- 11.1 Perform a 0.7X bead-based cleanup by combining the following:

Component	Volume
Beads with purified, adapter-ligated DNA	50 μL
PEG/NaCl Solution	35 μL
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>85 μL</b>

- 11.2 Mix thoroughly by vortexing and/or pipetting up and down multiple times.
- 11.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 5 – 15 min to bind DNA to the beads.
- 11.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 11.5 Carefully remove and discard 80 μL of supernatant.
- 11.6 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 μL of 80% ethanol.
- 11.7 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.
- 11.8 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol.
- 11.9 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200 μL of 80% ethanol.
- 11.10 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for ≥30 sec.
- 11.11 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol. Try to remove all residual ethanol without disturbing the beads.
- 11.12 Dry the beads at room temperature for 3 – 5 min, or until all of the ethanol has evaporated. **Caution: over-drying the beads may result in reduced yield.**
- 11.13 Remove the plate/tube(s) from the magnet.

- 11.14 Thoroughly resuspend the beads in 22  $\mu$ L of 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0 – 8.5).
- 11.15 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 2 min to elute DNA off the beads.
- 11.16 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 11.17 Transfer 20  $\mu$ L of the clear supernatant to a new plate/tube(s) and proceed to **Library Amplification** (step 12).

### SAFE STOPPING POINT

The purified, adapter-ligated library DNA may be stored at 2°C to 8°C for  $\leq$ 1 week, or frozen at -15°C to -25°C for  $\leq$ 1 month. When ready, proceed to **Library Amplification** (step 12).

## 12. Library Amplification

- 12.1 Assemble each library amplification reaction as follows:

Component	Volume
Purified, adapter-ligated DNA	20 $\mu$ L
Library amplification master mix (Table 8)	30 $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>50 <math>\mu</math>L</b>

- 12.2 Mix well by pipetting up and down several times.
- 12.3 Amplify the library using the following thermocycling profile:

Step	Temp.	Duration	Cycles
Initial denaturation	98°C	45 sec	1
Denaturation	98°C	15 sec	Refer to Table 1
Annealing*	60°C	30 sec	
Extension	72°C	30 sec	
Final extension	72°C	1 min	1
HOLD	4°C	$\infty$	1

\*Optimization of the annealing temperature may be required for non-standard (i.e., other than Illumina TruSeq®) adapter/primer combinations.

- 12.4 Proceed to **Library Amplification Cleanup** (step 13).

## 13. Library Amplification Cleanup

- 13.1 Perform a 1X bead-based cleanup by combining the following:

Component	Volume
Amplified library DNA	50 $\mu$ L
KAPA Pure Beads	50 $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume:</b>	<b>100 <math>\mu</math>L</b>

- 13.2 Mix thoroughly by vortexing and/or pipetting up and down multiple times.
- 13.3 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 5 – 15 min to bind DNA to the beads.
- 13.4 Place the plate/tube(s) on a magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 13.5 Carefully remove and discard 95  $\mu$ L of supernatant.
- 13.6 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200  $\mu$ L of 80% ethanol.
- 13.7 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for  $\geq$ 30 sec.
- 13.8 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol.
- 13.9 Keeping the plate/tube(s) on the magnet, add 200  $\mu$ L of 80% ethanol.
- 13.10 Incubate the plate/tube(s) on the magnet at room temperature for  $\geq$ 30 sec.
- 13.11 Carefully remove and discard the ethanol. Try to remove all residual ethanol without disturbing the beads.
- 13.12 Dry the beads at room temperature for 3 – 5 min, or until all of the ethanol has evaporated. **Caution: over-drying the beads may result in reduced yield.**
- 13.13 Thoroughly resuspend the dried beads in 22  $\mu$ L of 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0 – 8.5).
- 13.14 Incubate the plate/tube(s) at room temperature for 2 min to elute DNA off the beads.
- 13.15 Place the plate/tube(s) on the magnet to capture the beads. Incubate until the liquid is clear.
- 13.16 Transfer 20  $\mu$ L of the clear supernatant to a new plate/tube(s), and store the purified, amplified libraries at 2°C to 8°C ( $\leq$ 1 week), or at -15°C to -25°C.

## Appendix: Library Size Distribution Optimization

The KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) offers a tunable RNA fragmentation module in which RNA is fragmented at a high temperature in the presence of magnesium. Final library size distributions can be optimized for specific sample types and applications by varying both incubation time and temperature. Generally:

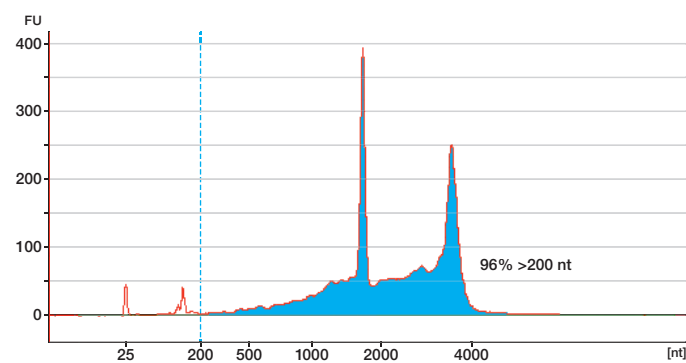
- higher temperatures and/or longer incubation times result in shorter, narrower distributions; and
- lower temperatures and/or shorter incubation times result in longer, broader distributions.

Fragmentation times may require adjustment based upon the quality of the input RNA. For intact RNA, such as that extracted from fresh/frozen tissue, longer fragmentation is required at higher temperatures. For degraded or fragmented RNA (e.g., from older samples or FFPE tissue), a lower temperature and/or shorter time should be used.

### Intact Total RNA Inputs

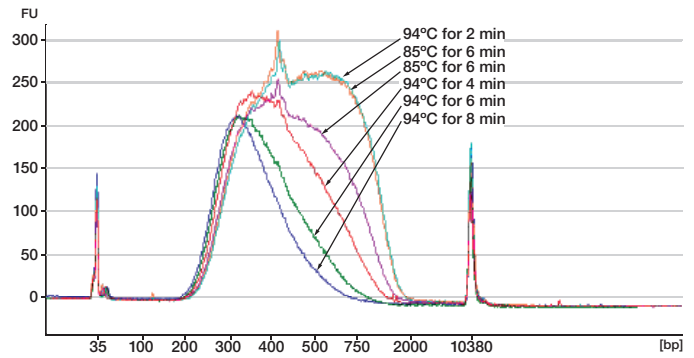
When using high-quality, intact total RNA, the following recommendations can be used as a starting point for the optimization of final library distributions beyond what is provided within the **Library Construction Protocol**. It is recommended that a non-precious, representative RNA sample be used for this optimization. For the following figures and tables, final libraries were generated using the KAPA RNA HyperPrep Kit with RiboErase (HMR) and 100 ng of high-quality Universal Human Reference (UHR) RNA.

The approximate mean and mode for the distributions shown in **Figure 2** are summarized in **Table 10**. **Figure 3** visually depicts these metrics for a sample library.



**Figure 1.** High-quality UHR total RNA electropherogram prior to rRNA depletion and library construction

RIN score was 7.6, with 96% of the RNA measuring >200 nucleotides, as assessed via an Agilent RNA 6000 Pico Kit.

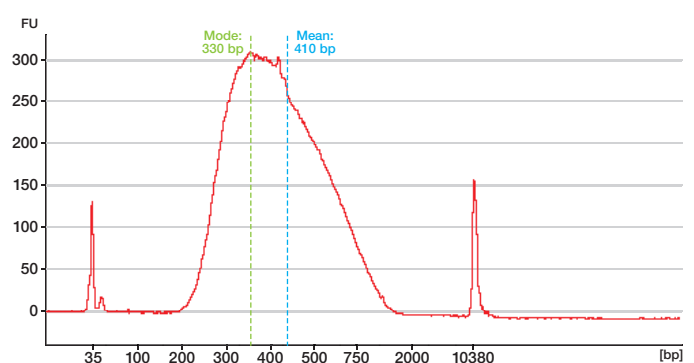


**Figure 2.** Final library distributions demonstrating fragmentation tunability

Higher temperatures and longer incubation times resulted in shorter, narrower final library distributions. Libraries were constructed using 100 ng of high-quality UHR RNA and various fragmentation conditions. Note that results may differ with other sample sources. Electropherograms were generated with an Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit.

**Table 10.** Approximate mean and mode final library sizes (bp) for each fragmentation condition assessed

Fragmentation	Final library size (bp)	
	Mean	Mode
94°C for 8 min	~330	~290
94°C for 6 min	~360	~300
94°C for 4 min	~410	~330
94°C for 2 min	~520	~390
85°C for 6 min	~460	~390
85°C for 4 min	~520	~390



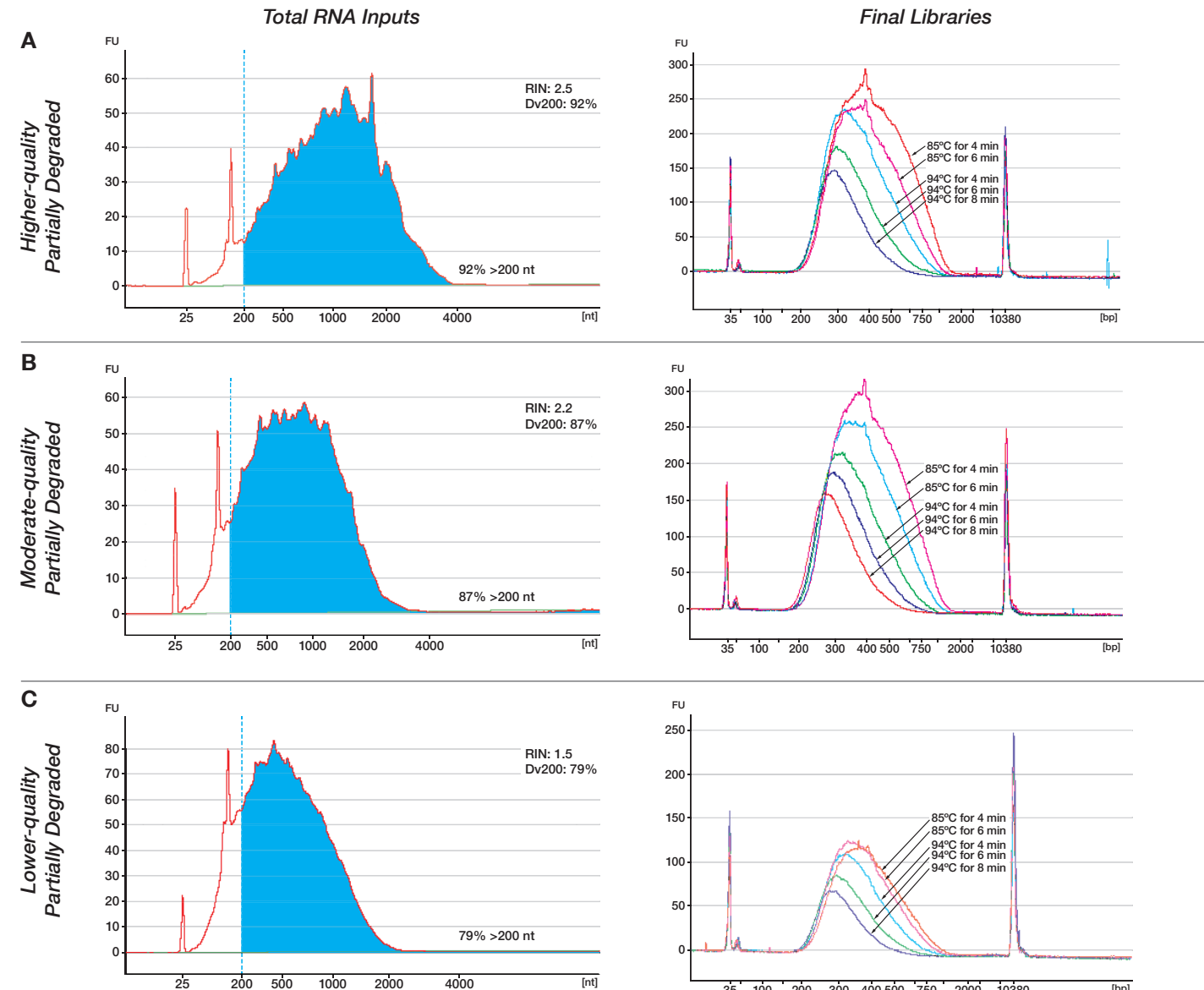
**Figure 3.** Visual depiction of the mean and mode distribution metrics

For a final library generated using 100 ng UHR fragmented at 95°C for 4 minutes, the mode is the highest peak in the library (~330 bp), while the mean is the numerical average across all molecular lengths in the library (~410 bp). In this example, the mean of the library is calculated across the range of 190 to 1200 bp. The higher molecular weight shoulder of the distribution results in the mean being larger than the mode.

## Partially Degraded Total RNA Inputs

When working with partially degraded (PD) inputs, the following recommendations may serve as a starting point for the optimization of final library distributions beyond what is provided within the **Library Construction Protocol**. It is recommended that a non-precious, representative RNA sample be used for optimization. For the following

figures and tables, chemically degraded samples of UHR were used as substitutes for real-world partially degraded samples of varying qualities. This RNA was ribosomally-depleted using the KAPA RiboErase (HMR) RNA enrichment module, processed with the KAPA RNA HyperPrep workflow, and subjected to a fragmentation condition titration.



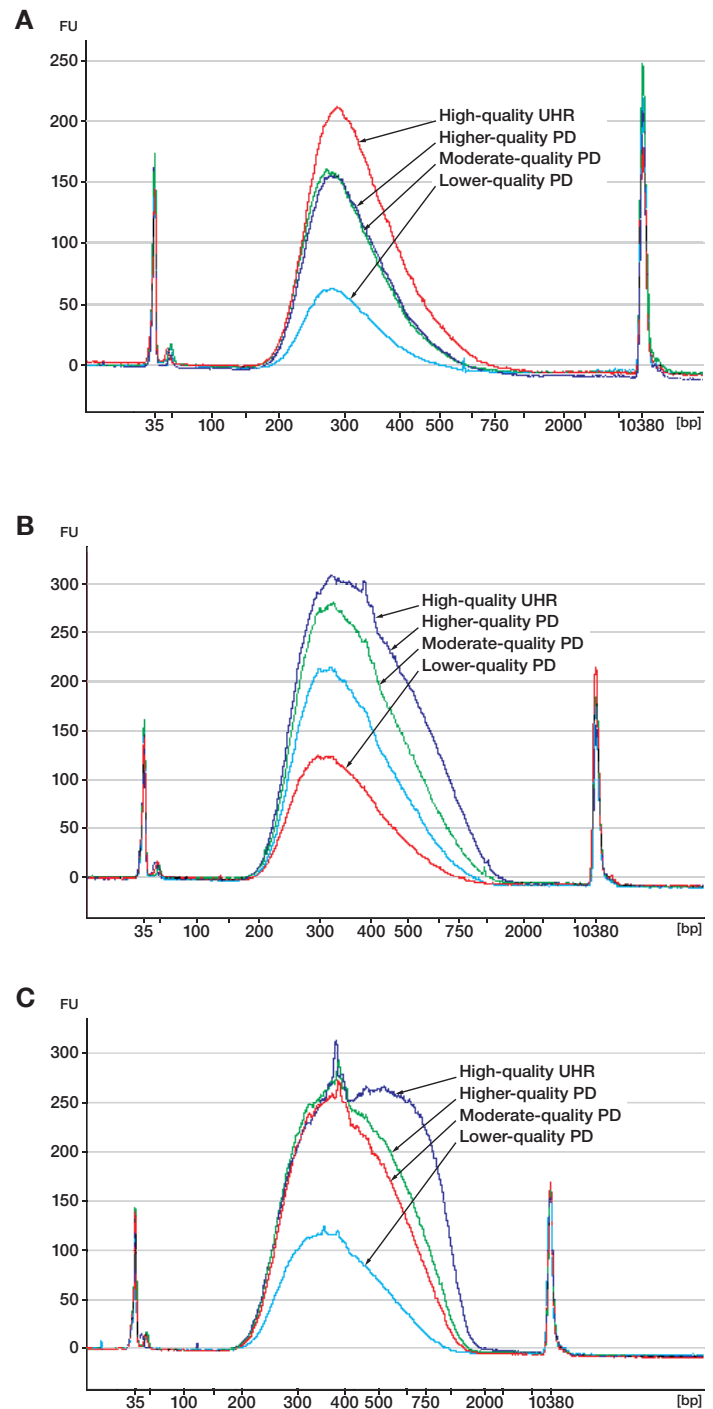
Fragmentation	Higher-quality Partially Degraded Final Library Size		Moderate-quality Partially Degraded Final Library Size		Lower-quality Partially Degraded Final Library Size	
	Mean (bp)	Mode (bp)	Mean (bp)	Mode (bp)	Mean (bp)	Mode (bp)
94°C for 8 min	~320	~280	~310	~270	~310	~280
94°C for 6 min	~350	~300	~340	~300	~330	~290
94°C for 4 min	~380	~330	~380	~310	~360	~310
85°C for 6 min	~420	~390	~410	~330	~390	~330
85°C for 4 min	~450	~390	~450	~390	~410	~360

**Figure 4. Input RNA and final library distributions for a range of partially degraded sample qualities**

Libraries were constructed using 100 ng of chemically-degraded UHR RNA to target various qualities of partially degraded inputs, including higher-quality (A), moderate-quality (B), and lower-quality (C). As expected, the two commonly used RNA quality metrics, RIN and Dv200, decrease as RNA quality decreases. For all RNA qualities assessed, increased fragmentation time and/or temperature resulted in shorter, narrower distributions. Note that results may differ with other sample sources. Total RNA electropherograms were generated with an Agilent RNA 6000 Pico Kit, and final library electropherograms were generated with an Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit.

The effects of total RNA quality on final library distributions are illustrated in Figure 5, and summarized below by fragmentation condition:

- 94°C for 8 min: Final library distributions were not overly impacted by input RNA quality, but a correlation between lower quality and reduced final library yield was apparent.
- 94°C for 4 min: While final library distribution modes were not overly impacted by input RNA quality, distributions became narrower, resulting in lower mean values, as RNA quality decreased.
- 85°C for 4 min: Both the mode and mean final library distribution metrics were impacted by RNA input quality, with both metrics decreasing as input quality decreased. Final library yield was not overly impacted until input quality dropped sufficiently low.



**Figure 5. Assessment of the effects of total RNA quality on final library distributions**

Fragmentation conditions were selected to target a range of final library sizes: 94°C for 8 min (A), 94°C for 4 min (B), and 85°C for 4 min (C). Libraries were constructed using 100 ng of either intact (UHR) UHR RNA or partially-degraded (PD) UHR RNA. Results may differ with other sample sources. Electropherograms were generated with an Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit.



## FFPE-derived Total RNA Inputs

When working with FFPE-derived total RNA inputs, fragmentation at 65°C for 1 min is recommended. In the following figures and table, final libraries were generated using two FFPE-derived samples, one of higher-quality and one of lower-quality. Total RNA was ribosomally-depleted using the KAPA RiboErase (HMR) RNA enrichment module and then processed with the KAPA RNA HyperPrep workflow.

It should be noted that variable qualities of FFPE-derived samples can impact both final library size distributions and the amount of adapter-dimer carryover. In the case of elevated amounts of residual adapter-dimer, perform a second post-amplification 1X KAPA Pure Beads cleanup. Adapter-dimer carryover can be prevented in future library preparations by reducing the adapter concentration in the ligation reaction.

Table 11. Approximate final mean and mode library sizes, in bp, and adapter-dimer carryover rate for higher- and lower-quality FFPE samples.

Sample	Final library size (bp)		Adapter-dimer (Molar %)
	Mean	Mode	
Thyroid (higher-quality)	~350	~310	0.8
Duodenum (lower-quality)	~300	~280	14.2

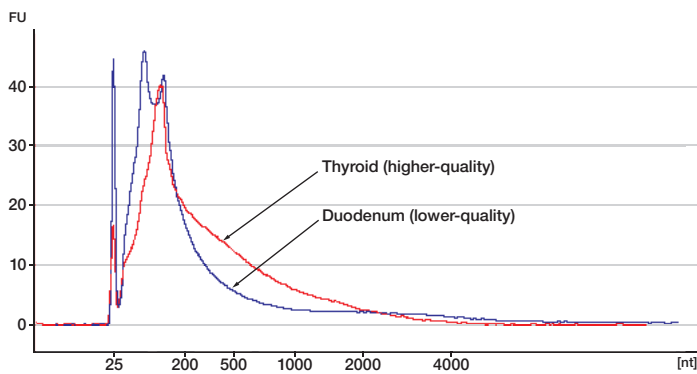


Figure 6. Electropherograms for total RNA inputs derived from thyroid and duodenum FFPE samples

The high-quality thyroid sample had a RIN score of 2.2, with 47% of the RNA measuring >200 nucleotides. The lower-quality duodenum sample had a RIN score of 2.5, with 29% of the RNA measuring >200 nucleotides. Both quality metrics were assessed via an Agilent RNA 6000 Pico Kit.

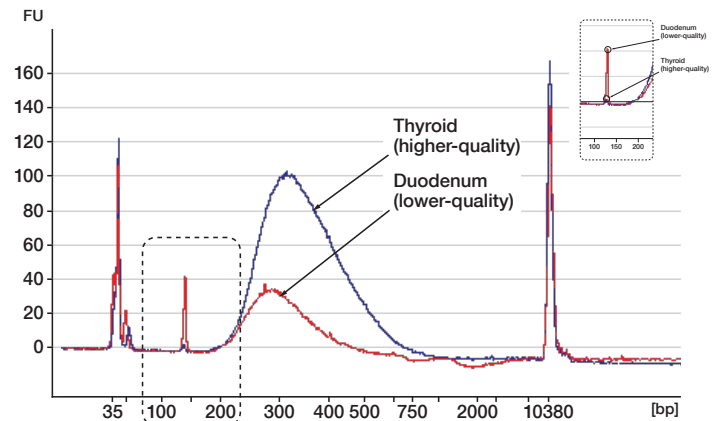


Figure 7. Final libraries resulting from FFPE-derived RNA inputs

The lower-quality FFPE input showed a slightly smaller size distribution and a higher prevalence of adapter-dimer in comparison to the higher-quality FFPE input. Libraries were constructed using 100 ng of total RNA fragmented at 65°C for 1 minute. Electropherograms were generated with an Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit.

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