

March 2022

Important Note

Shortage of PyroMark® Q48 Autoprep Absorber Strips

Dear valued customer,

As a result of ongoing global supply chain issues, the PyroMark Q48 Absorber Strips (cat. no. 974912) have been on backorder for an extended period of time. This Important Note provides instructions for two alternative approaches that will enable continued use of your PyroMark instrument until the supply issue is resolved.

Option 1: Reuse of PyroMark Q48 Absorber Strips

Although not optimal, the PyroMark Q48 Absorber Strips may be reused several times. If necessary, the strips can be rinsed in clean water using a beaker.

1. After completion of a run or a cleaning procedure, carefully remove the absorber strip from the PyroMark Q48 Autoprep instrument when prompted to do so on the instrument touchscreen.
2. Place the absorber strip flat on paper towels and let it dry for several hours.
3. After complete drying, the strip will have regained its original shape and size and may be used for the next run or cleaning procedure.

To avoid contamination of surfaces in your lab, we recommend you wear protective equipment and carry out the drying procedure in a tray placed next to the instrument.

Option 2: Use paper towel material as a replacement for PyroMark Q48 Absorber Strips

In case no absorber strips are available, paper towels may be used to collect the liquid during a PyroMark Q48 Autoprep run.

You may use other materials that are able to soak the liquid resulting from the Pyrosequencing® run, but we suggest to do some performance tests to see how the size of the material changes over time, e.g., by performing a Pyrosequencing run with water instead of using the Pyrosequencing reagents.

Important note: Please pay special attention that the material will not touch the disk or other moving parts of the instrument during the Pyrosequencing run!

1. Fold one or two paper towels to a thickness of approximately 3 mm and a height of 15 mm. The thickness must be between 3.0–3.6 mm to ensure that they fit into the absorber strip cavity of the instrument and that they will not move inside the absorber strip cavity during the run.

Important note: It is recommended to use lint-free paper as it does not swell too much and also avoids paper lint contamination.

2. Place the “strip” into the instrument. We recommend closing the lids of the cartridges during insertion of the paper towels to avoid the possibility of paper lint getting into the cartridges and clogging the cartridges.
 3. Depending on the length of the paper towel used, it may be necessary to repeat steps 1 and 2 to achieve an overall length of approximately 440 mm. Do not leave a gap larger than 1–3 mm to ensure that all liquid is collected during the run.
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We are also working on a pre-cut and orderable temporary replacement for the PyroMark Q48 Absorber Strips to provide greater convenience until the strips are once again available. We will do our best to provide this solution as soon as possible.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this situation may have caused. Please be assured that we are doing everything we can to solve the supply shortage from our side. Please do not hesitate to contact us in case of any question.

Best regards,

Your QIAGEN team

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