

BD Vacutainer® Venous Blood Collection Tube Guide



For the full array of BD Vacutainer® Blood Collection Tubes, visit www.bd.com. Many are available in a variety of sizes and draw volumes. Refer to our website for full descriptions.

BD Vacutainer® Tubes with BD Hemogard™ Closure	BD Vacutainer® Tubes with Conventional Stopper	Additive	Inversions at Blood Collection*	Laboratory use	Laboratory notes
 Red	 Red	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silicone coated (glass) Clot activator - Silicone coated (plastic) 	0 5	For chemistry determinations in serum. May be used for routine blood donor screening and diagnostic testing of serum for infectious disease.** Tube inversions ensure mixing of clot activator with blood. Blood clotting time: 60 minutes.	
 Gold	 Red/Gray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clot activator and gel for serum separation 	5	For chemistry determinations in serum. May be used for routine blood donor screening and diagnostic testing of serum for infectious disease.** Tube inversions ensure mixing of clot activator with blood. Blood clotting time: 30 minutes.	
 Orange		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thrombin-based clot activator with gel for serum separation 	5 to 6	For stat chemistry determinations in serum. Tube inversions ensure mixing of clot activator with blood. Blood clotting time: 5 minutes.	
 Light Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lithium heparin and gel for plasma separation 	8	For chemistry determinations in plasma. Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant (heparin) with blood to prevent clotting.	
 Green  Translucent Green	 Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sodium heparin Lithium heparin 	8 8	For chemistry determinations in plasma. Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant (heparin) with blood to prevent clotting.	
 Lavender  Translucent Lavender	 Lavender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liquid K₃EDTA (glass) Spray-coated K₂EDTA (plastic) 	8 8	K ₂ EDTA and K ₃ EDTA for whole blood hematology determinations. K ₂ EDTA may be used for routine immunohematology testing.*** Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant (EDTA) with blood to prevent clotting.	
 Pink		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spray-coated K₂EDTA (plastic) 	8	For whole blood hematology determinations. May be used for routine immunohematology testing.*** Designed with special cross-match label for patient information required by the AABB. Tube inversions ensures mixing of anticoagulant (EDTA) with blood to prevent clotting.	
 White		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K₂EDTA and gel for plasma separation 	8	For use in molecular diagnostic test methods (such as, but not limited to, polymerase chain reaction [PCR] and/or branched DNA [bDNA] amplification techniques.) Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant (EDTA) with blood to prevent clotting.	
 Light Blue  Clear		Buffered sodium citrate 0.109 M (3.2%) plastic	3-4	For coagulation determinations. Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant (citrate) to prevent clotting.	
 Gray	 Gray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride Sodium fluoride/Na₂EDTA Sodium fluoride (serum tube) 	8 8 8	For glucose determinations. Oxalate and EDTA are anticoagulants and NaF is an antiglycolytic agent. Tube inversions ensure proper mixing of additive with blood.	
 Royal Blue		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clot activator (plastic) K₂EDTA (plastic) 	8 8	For trace-element, toxicology, and nutritional-chemistry determinations in serum or plasma. Special stopper formulation provides low levels of trace elements (see package insert). Tube inversions ensure proper mixing of additive with blood.	
	 Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sodium polyanethol sulfonate (SPS) Acid citrate dextrose additives (ACD): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solution A: 22.0 g/L trisodium citrate, 8.0 g/L citric acid, 24.5 g/L dextrose Solution B: 13.2 g/L trisodium citrate, 4.8 g/L citric acid, 14.7 g/L dextrose 	8 8 8	SPS for blood culture specimen collections in microbiology. ACD for use in blood bank studies, and paternity testing. Tube inversions ensure mixing of anticoagulant with blood to prevent clotting.	
 Clear	 Red/Light Gray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additive (plastic) 	0	For use as a discard tube or secondary specimen tube.	

BD Vacutainer® Tubes with a translucent cap are designed to draw less blood as indicated on the tube label. Small-volume, partial-draw tubes fill more slowly than full-draw tubes due to a lower vacuum.

For additional information refer to the IFU at eifu.bd.com.

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* Invert gently, do not shake.

** The performance characteristics of these tubes have not been established for infectious disease testing in general; therefore, users must validate the use of these tubes for their specific assay-instrument/reagent system combinations and specimen storage conditions.

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