

TrueORF™ cDNA Clones, Lenti Particles, and PrecisionShuttle™ Vector System

Application Guide

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Revision 10.14

Package Contents and Storage Conditions

For Lenti-ORF particles:

- One (1) vial containing 200 μ L of Lenti-ORF particles
- Certificate of Analysis

For plasmid DNAs:

The following components are included:

- One (1) vial containing the cDNA clone as 10 μ g lyophilized plasmid DNA*. Reconstitute in 100 μ L dH₂O, final concentration 100 ng/ μ L.

Storage conditions

The dried plasmids can be stored at 4°C. However, once reconstituted with dH₂O, the plasmids must be stored at -20°C. Viral particles should be stored at -80°C, avoid repeat freeze and thaws

Related Optional Reagents

Restriction enzymes and buffers

Sgf I/ASIS I from Fermentas

Mlu I from Fermentas or New England Biolabs

Nuclease free water

T4 DNA ligase and buffer

Competent *E. coli* cells

LB agar plates with kanamycin, 25 μ g/ml (Entry vector)

LB agar plates with ampicillin, 100 μ g/ml (Destination vectors, non-Lenti)

LB agar plates with chloramphenicol, 34 μ g/ml (Destination vectors, Lenti-based)

LB broth (10 g/L Tryptone, 5 g/L Yeast Extract, 10 g/L NaCl. Adjust pH to 7.0 with 1 N NaOH)

DNA purification reagents

Anti-FLAG Antibody – 4C5-AntiDDK (OriGene TA50011)

Notice to purchaser

This product is for research use only. Use in and/or for diagnostics and therapeutics is strictly prohibited. By opening and using the product, the purchaser agrees to the following: The plasmids may not be distributed, resold, modified for resale or used to manufacture commercial products without prior written approval from OriGene Technologies, Inc. If you do not agree to the above conditions, please return the UNOPENED product to OriGene Technologies, Inc. within ten (10) days of receipt for a full refund.

Lenti-ORF Particles

Product Description

To provide convenience to researchers, the replication-incompetent Lenti-ORF particles are available with different C-terminal tags (Myc-DDK and mGFP). Some particles also contain puro selection marker. The viral particles are filtered through 0.45µm filter and titrated via a HIV p24 antigen ELISA assay (OriGene cat# TR30038). The ORF in these ready-to-transduce Lenti-ORF particles is driven under the CMV promoter.

Contents and storage

Contents	Titer	Quantity	Shipping	Storage
Lenti-ORF particles	>1x10 ⁷ TU/ml	200 uL	Dry ice	-80°C (stable for at least 6 months)

Note:

The exact titer of each lentiviral particle will be reported on the Certificate of Analysis.

Precautions and Disclaimer

Although the lentiviral transduction particles are replication-incompetent, it is highly recommended that they are treated as Risk Group Level 2 (RGL-2) organisms. Follow all published RGL-2 guidelines for handling and waste decontamination.

Suggestions:

- a. Wear double gloves and lab coat at all times.
- b. Perform work in a Class II Biosafety Cabinet (BSC) and post biohazard warning signs.
- c. Minimize splashes or aerosols with careful pipetting.

- d. Autoclave all biological wastes and decontaminate before disposal.

Lentiviral transduction Protocols

The following protocol is based on a 24-well plate. If your experiments require a different size of culture plates, just scale up or down accordingly based on the relative surface area.

Tissue Culture Vessel	Growth area, cm ² /well
96-well plate	0.35
24-well plate	2
12-well plate	4
6-well plate	9.5
35 mm plate	8
60 mm plate	20
100 mm plate	60

Day 1, seed cells

Seed 0.5×10^5 HEK293T cells or your specific cells in each well of 24-well plate to 50% confluency upon transduction. Serum free medium is not required for the transduction. Use the optimal cell specific medium and conditions. Incubate 18–20 hours at 37°C in a humidified 5% CO₂ incubator.

Note: While determining the plate density, please consider both the growth rates of cells and the length of time the cells will be growing before transduction.

Day 2, transduction

1. Calculate the amount of viral particles to be added according to the desired multiplicity of infection (MOI).

Multiplicity of Infection (MOI):

Multiplicity of Infection (MOI) is the number of transducing lentiviral particles per cell

To calculate:

$(\text{Total number of cells per well}) \times (\text{Desired MOI}) = \text{Total transducing units needed (TU)}$

$(\text{Total TU needed}) / (\text{TU/mL}) = \text{Total mL of lentiviral particles to be added to each well}$

2. Thaw the lentiviral particles on ice. Gently spin down before opening. Keep them on ice. Mix gently before use.
3. Remove medium from the cell culture and add appropriate amount of Lentiviral particles, culture medium, polybrene (final concentration is 8 µg/mL) to the total volume of 500 µL. Gently swirl the plate to mix.

Polybrene (Hexadimethrine bromide):

Polybrene is a small, positively charged molecule that binds to cell surfaces, neutralizes surface charge, increases binding between pseudoviral capsid and the cellular membrane. Polybrene (Hexadimethrine bromide) has been proved to greatly enhance transduction efficiency. Some cells, like primary neurons, are sensitive to polybrene. Do not add polybrene to these types of cells. If working with a cell type for the first time, a polybrene control only well should be used to determine cell sensitivity.

4. Incubate 18–20 hours at 37°C in a humidified 5% CO₂ incubator. Overnight incubation may be avoided when toxicity of the lentiviral particles is a concern. Cells may be incubated for as little as 4 hours before changing the medium containing lentiviral particles.

Day 3, change media

Remove the medium containing lentiviral particles from wells and replace with 500 µL fresh pre-warmed complete culture medium.

Day 5, 72 hrs post transduction

Harvest the cells, perform Western blot to detect gene expression with the tag antibody (DDK antibody, cat# TA50011 or mGFP antibody, cat# TA150122) or observe the GFP under a fluorescent microscope. Keep growing cells if you plan to isolate stable cell lines.

If you want to generate stable cell lines if the WB is positive or GFP is positive, you will need to split the transduced cells and seed them at very low density, such as 10-20 cells per 10cm culture dish as the Lenti-ORF vector used in the catalog viral particles does not have a drug resistant marker. Change medium every 3-4 days until single colonies can be identified (generally, 10-12 days later). Pick a minimum of 5 single colonies and expand further.

The same ORF is offered in 6 different expression vectors

Non Lenti-based Vectors (Figure 1):

pCMV6-Entry: In this vector, a TrueORF sequence is fused with a MYC/DDK tag at its carboxy terminus. The antibiotic selection marker for *E. coli* is kanamycin (25ug/ml), and neomycin (G418) for mammalian cells. Unlike an entry clone in other shuttling systems, OriGene's entry vector is a functional mammalian expression vector. The small dual tags facilitate the detection and purification of the ORF product with anti-Myc or anti-DDK antibody.

pCMV6-AC-GFP: In this vector, a TrueORF is fused with turboGFP at its carboxy terminus. The antibiotic selection marker for *E. coli* is ampicillin (100ug/ml), and

neomycin (G418) for mammalian cells. The green fluorescence tag allows one to monitor the ORF product in live mammalian cells.

Lenti Vectors (Figure 2):

pLenti-C-MYC-DDK: In this vector, a TrueORF is fused with Myc and DDK tags at its carboxy terminus (DDK is the same as Flag tag). The antibiotic selection marker for *E. coli* is Chloramphenicol. The lenti-based vector allows the TrueORF insert to be packaged into pseudo viral particles and to be introduced into almost all cell lines including difficult-to-transfect cells through infection. The small dual tags facilitate the detection and purification of the ORF product with anti-Myc or anti-DDK antibody.

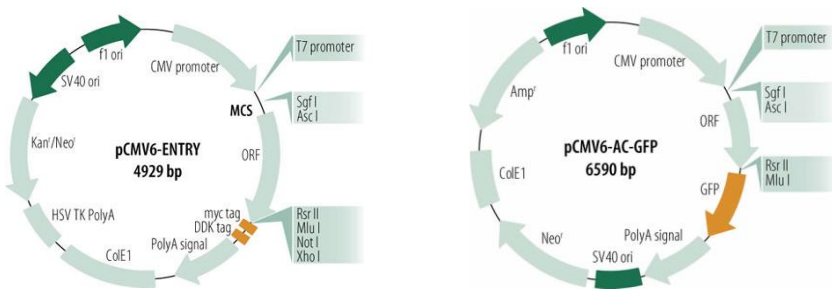
pLenti-C-mGFP: In this vector, a TrueORF is fused with a monomeric GFP at its carboxy terminus. The antibiotic selection marker for *E. coli* is chloramphenicol. The green fluorescence tag allows one to monitor the ORF product in live mammalian cells. The monomeric GFP tag can avoid a potential mis-translocation of a target caused by dimeric form of GFP such as tGFP.

The same ORF is also offered in two other lentiviral vector containing puromycin selection marker, pLenti-C-Myc-DDK-P2A-Puro, pLenti-C-mGFP-P2A-Puro. After lentiviral transduction, you can use puromycin to select stable cells.

Note: For Lenti-ORF clones, due to the long-terminal repeats in the vector, to make more plasmid DNA, recombination deficient *E. Coli* competent cells are recommended, such as *Stbl3* from ThermoFisher.

In addition to the commonly used vectors listed above, OriGene provides over 100 PrecisionShuttle vectors for a variety of utilities, different epitope tags or fluorescent protein tags, different mammalian selection markers or expression systems, AAV2 or Lenti vectors for virus production and transduction of difficult-to-transfect cells. Two new Tet-on inducible vectors are launched for the inducible expression of target gene. A TrueORF insert can be shuttled easily among all PrecisionShuttle vectors with a pair of restriction enzymes and the tags will be in frame with the gene if the same pair of enzymes are used. For detailed vector information (sequence, map, tag location, and cloning sites) go to <https://www.origene.com/products/vectors>

Figure 1. The Vector Maps of pCMV6-Entry and pCMV6-AC-GFP.



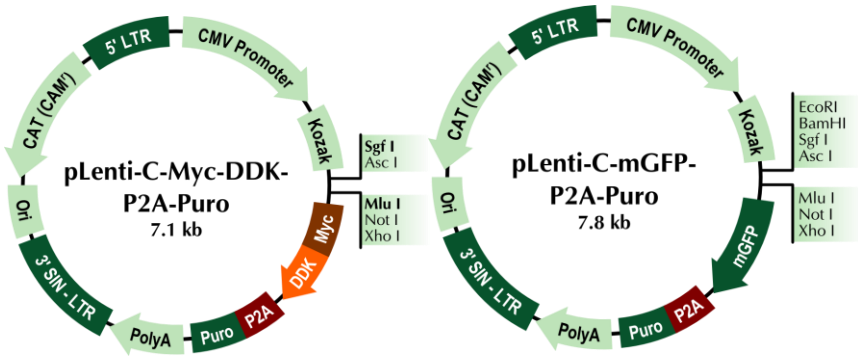
Multiple cloning site of pLenti-C-mGFP Vector

pLenti-C-mGFP

```

                                Kozak
                                Consensus
                                Sgf I
                                Asc I
EcoR I      BamH I      RBS
CTATAGGGCGCGCCGGGAATTCGTCGACTGGATCCGGTACCGAGGAGATCTGCCGCCGCGATCGCCGGCGCCAGATCT

                                Rsr II      Mlu I      Not I      Xho I      mGFP Tag
CAAGCTTAAGCTAGTTAGCGGACCG  ACG CGT  ACG CGG CCG CTC GAG  ATG AGC GGG GGC --- --- ---
                                T   R   T   R   P   L   E      M   S   G   G   -   -   -
----- GGA CTC AGA GTT TAA ACGGCCGCCGCGG
- - - - - G   L   R   V   Stop
    
```



Multiple cloning sites of pLenti-C-Myc-DDK-P2A-Puro

```

                                Kozak
                                Consensus
                                Sgf I
                                Asc I
EcoR I      BamH I      RBS
CTATAGGGCGCGCCGGGAATTCGTCGACTGGATCCGGTACCGAGGAGATCTGCCGCCGCGATCGCC

                                Asc I
GGCGCCAGATCTCAAGCTTAAGCTAGCTAGCGACCGACG CGT ACG CGG CCG CTC GAG CAG
                                Mlu I      Not I      Xho I
                                T   R   T   R   P   L   E   Q

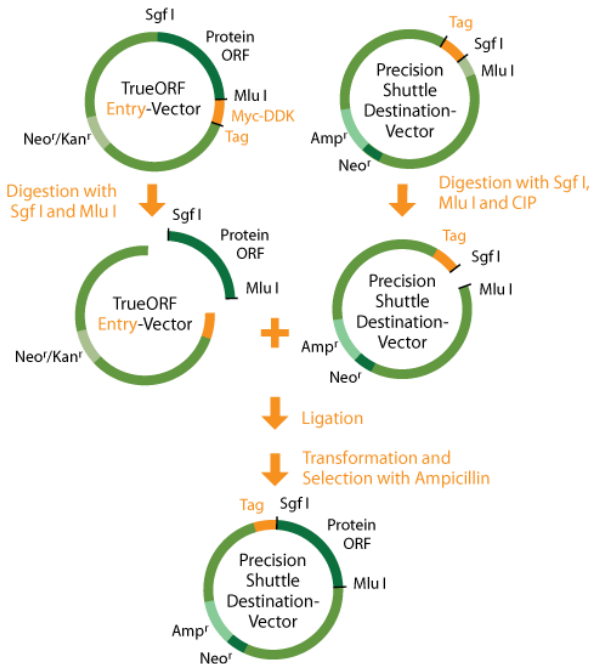
Myc tag
AAA CTC ATC TCA GAA GAG GAT CTG GCA GCA AAT GAT ATC CTG GAT TAC AAG GAT GAG CAC
K   L   I   S   E   E   D   L   A   A   N   D   I   L   D   Y   K   D   D   D

                                DDK tag
GAT AAG GTT TGGGTAGGAAG
D   K   V
    
```


cell-free system. The plasmids contain the promoter and enhancers of the human cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate-early gene to drive mammalian gene expression, and the T7 promoter for *in vitro* transcription/translation. A Kozak consensus sequence is included in the plasmid to enhance mammalian expression.

The PrecisionShuttle vector system employs a basic “cut and ligate” molecular cloning method (Figure 4). It is faster, cheaper, more reliable and flexible than a recombination strategy, and no intellectual license is required for either academic or commercial users. The transfer of the ORF from the Entry clone to any destination vector is a rapid process. Digestion, ligation and transformation take as little as 3 hrs (Figure 4) since the Entry vector and destination vectors use different antibiotic selection markers. Unlike recombination-based systems in which the Entry clone is only a preliminary product, OriGene’s Entry Vector contains C-terminal Myc and DDK tags, and can be used directly for many applications including 1) tagged protein expression (C-terminal Myc/DDK in mammalian cells and 2) tagged protein expression in a cell-free system using the T7 promoter.

Figure 4. Schematic of the PrecisionShuttle subcloning procedure. The Entry and destination vectors are digested with Sgf I and Mlu I or other specified enzymes. After a ligation reaction, the resulting clones are grown on ampicillin-containing plates to select for successful subcloning of the ORF into the destination vector.



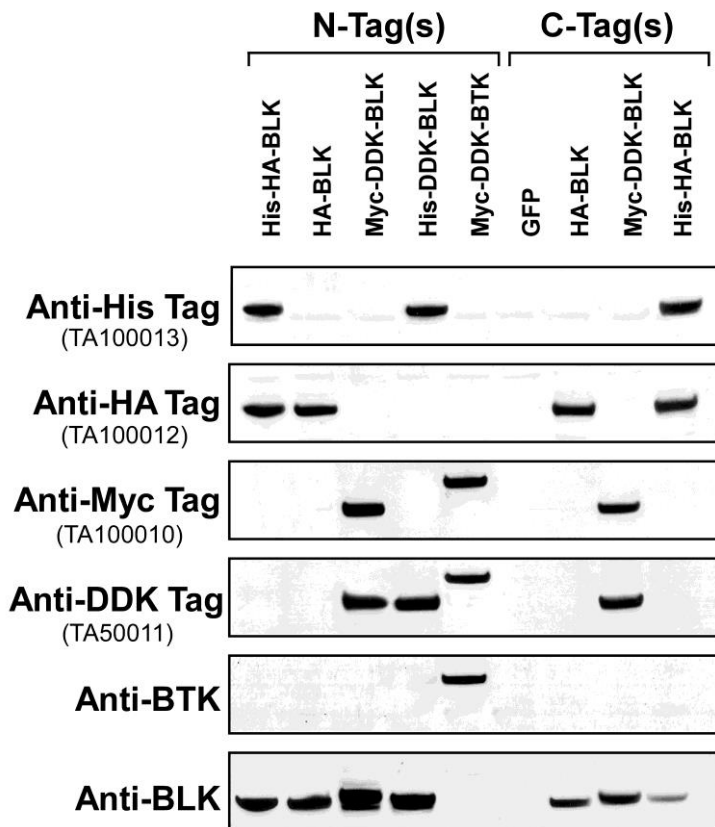
Two rare-cutting restriction enzymes are utilized in transferring an ORF between vectors. Most subcloning from the Entry to a destination vector involves *Sgf I*/Asi I (present in 0.37% of human ORF) and *Mlu I* (4%). In the very unusual case when *Sgf I* and *Mlu I* sites are inside the ORFs, the TrueORF vector MCS provides other rare restriction sites, such as Asc I, Rsr II, and Not I so that any ORF can be shuttled from the Entry vector to a destination vector by using some combination of these five rare restriction enzymes. Unlike site-specific recombination vector systems, the TrueORF Clone System does not append multiple amino acids to the amino or carboxy terminus of the protein of interest. The subcloning strategy maintains insert orientation and reading frame, eliminating the need to resequence the insert after each transfer. Because the Entry and destination vectors have different antibiotic resistance genes, selection after subcloning is a very simple process. Therefore, the shuttling process can be readily adapted to a 384-well format. With the availability of over 32,000 unique full-length human cDNA clones and mouse and rat clones, OriGene is in an enviable position to develop and support such high throughput applications.

While the PrecisionShuttle vector system can be used for any cDNA, we have developed this system to take advantage of the largest collection of full-length cDNA clones available at OriGene. Every cDNA clone is offered in the Entry vector as a TrueORF clone, and the customer can easily transfer this ORF into any destination vector. A special effort has been made during the synthesis of these TrueORF clones to minimize the generation of mutations. Using a large quantity of high-quality cDNA template, a minimum of PCR cycles and a polymerase with the highest fidelity (one mutation in 40,000,000 bp), the number of PCR mutations is very limited. No mutations were identified during the initial cloning of over 200 ORF cDNAs (ranging from 500-6000bp) into the Entry vector after full-length sequencing of each of these clones. The MCS of the PrecisionShuttle vectors was engineered to be compatible with most other commercially available vector systems including Gateway vectors (Invitrogen), PET vectors (Novagen) and Flexi vectors (Promega). In this sense, the TrueORF vector system is truly universal.

The PrecisionShuttle Entry and destination vectors contain the neomycin phosphotransferase gene under the SV40 promoter. Expression of the neomycin phosphotransferase gene in mammalian cells allows stable cell selection with a neomycin analog such as G418. Destination vectors with alternative selection markers (e.g. puromycin, blasticidin, hygromycin, etc.), are also available. A complete and up to date listing of these vectors can be found on our website at <https://www.origene.com/products/vectors>.

The development of the PrecisionShuttle vector system has gone through a rigorous quality control (QC) process. Both the Entry vector and the destination vectors have been validated for transient and stable mammalian cell transfections using a tGFP marker (data not shown). The expression of N-terminal and C-terminal fusion tags has been validated by Western blot analysis (shown in Figure 5).

Figure 5. Western blot analysis of proteins expressed from N-terminally and C-terminally tagged PrecisionShuttle vectors. Each lane of the blot contains the whole cell lysate from an overexpression experiment using a PrecisionShuttle vector. BLK represents human B lymphoid tyrosine kinase (NM_001715); BTK represents human Bruton agammaglobulinemia tyrosine kinase (NM_000061). These two cDNAs were cloned into the destination vectors identified at the top of the blot. GFP represents one empty destination vector, pCMV6-AC-GFP, used for cloning C-terminal GFP fusion proteins. Specific antibodies against BLK and BTK detected the same size proteins as antibodies against the N-terminal and C-terminal tags.



Experimental protocols

Detect protein over-expression using anti-DDK antibody

The protein expression level can be detected using anti-DDK antibody (OriGene product number TA50011, 4C5-Anti-DDK monoclonal antibody) with Western blotting method. This antibody is shown to be 5-10 times more sensitive than Sigma's M2 anti-FLAG antibody. Therefore, it is important to use TA50011 mAb when accessing protein over-expression using OriGene's TrueORF clones. When OriGene's 4C5-Anti-DDK monoclonal antibody is used, the suggested starting dilutions are 1:2000 for Western blot, 1:200 for immunoprecipitation and immunostaining, and 1:1000 for immunofluorescence.

Primer Design and PCR Amplification of ORF

(Note: Primers are sold separately)

The open reading frame (ORF) of the clone must be PCR amplified in order to append cloning sites to the 5' and 3' ends of the sequence. Add the target sequences of the selected restriction enzymes to the forward and reverse PCR primers; examples are shown below.

Forward primer with Sgf I

5' GAG**GCGATCGCC**NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN 3'

Ns represent the sequence of the ORF beginning with the start codon, ATG. It is important to add the additional "C" base after the Sgf I site to maintain appropriate reading frames with N-terminal tags in some destination vectors.

Reverse primer with Mlu I

5' GCG**ACGCGT**NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN 3'

Ns represent the reverse complement of the ORF sequence starting **with the stop codon** for N-terminally tagged or untagged destination vectors. This ensures that the expressed fusion protein will end at the native C-terminal end of the ORF. For C-terminally tagged vectors, the reverse complement of the ORF sequence should start **with the second-to-last codon**, as the stop codon must be removed to generate a fusion protein.

If the recognition sites for Sgf I or Mlu I are present internally in the ORF, another rare cutter such as Asc I, Rsr II or Not I can be used in the cloning strategy. In these cases, the sequences of these alternate restriction sites should be used in place of Sgf I and/or Mlu I (examples below). This same primer design strategy described above should be used for the design of other primers. The Ns in the forward primer represent the sequence of the ORF beginning with the start codon, ATG. The Ns in the reverse primers represent the reverse complement of the ORF sequence starting **with the stop codon** for N-terminally tagged or untagged destination vectors, or starting **with the second-to-last codon** for C-terminally tagged vectors.

Forward primer with Asc I:

5' GCC**GCGCGCC**ANNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN 3'

An extra nucleotide after Asc I is important to maintain reading frames with N-terminal tags in some destination vectors.

15 cycles of	95°C	10 sec
	56°C	20 sec
	72°C	4 min
	72°C	10 min
	4°C	hold

Cloning of ORF into the Entry Vector

1. Confirm that the size of the amplification product is correct by agarose gel electrophoresis, and purify the remainder of the reaction using a purification column or similar method. Elute the DNA from the purification column in 26 μ l of 10 mM Tris buffer. Set up a digestion reaction as described below, substituting other restriction enzymes as appropriate.

<u>Component</u>	<u>Volume</u>
10X restriction buffer	3 μ l
Sgf I (10U/ μ l)	0.6 μ l
Mlu I (10U/ μ l)	0.6 μ l
<u>Purified PCR product</u>	<u>26 μl</u>
Total volume	~30 μ l

Mix well, and incubate at 37°C for 3 hrs.

2. Purify the digestion reaction using a purification column and elute in 18 μ l of 10 mM Tris buffer. Quantitate the DNA by UV at A260.

3. Digest pCMV6-Entry with the restriction enzymes corresponding to the sequences added to the ORF. pCMV6-Entry is available from OriGene as 10 μ g lyophilized DNA (Cat# PS100001). Resuspend the lyophilized DNA in 100 μ l dH₂O, and incubate for at least 30 min before use. Set up a digestion reaction as described below, substituting other restriction enzymes as appropriate.

<u>Component</u>	<u>Volume</u>
10X restriction buffer	3 μ l
Sgf I (10U/ μ l)	0.8 μ l
Mlu I (10U/ μ l)	0.8 μ l
Nuclease free water	15.4 μ l
<u>Vector DNA</u>	<u>10 μl</u>
Total volume	30 μ l

Incubate at 37°C for 3 hrs, then add 1 μ l antarctic phosphatase (units used according to the manufacturer's protocol), and continue the incubation at 37°C for another 30 min. Dephosphorylation of the digested vector is essential to eliminate self-ligation.

4. Purify the desired vector fragment by running the digestion reaction on an agarose gel, and isolating the appropriate band using a gel purification column. Elute the digested plasmid vector in 40 μ l of 10 mM Tris buffer.

5. Set up a ligation reaction with the purified vector and insert fragments:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Volume</u>
10X ligase buffer	1 μ l
nuclease free water	3.5 μ l
T4 DNA ligase	0.5 μ l
Vector fragment	2 μ l (approx 10 ng)*
<u>PCR product</u>	<u>3 μl (approx 30 ng)*</u>
Total volume	10 μ l

Incubate the ligation reaction at room temperature for 30-60 minutes. * Alternate ratios may need to be tested to obtain optimal ligation efficiency.

6. Transform 1 μ l of the ligation mixture using 20 μ l high efficiency competent *E. coli* cells (ideally 1×10^8 CFU/ μ g). Following transformation, resuspend cells in 200 μ l LB.

7. Plate the entire transformation reaction on a standard LB-agar plate containing 25 μ g/ml kanamycin. Incubate at 37°C overnight.

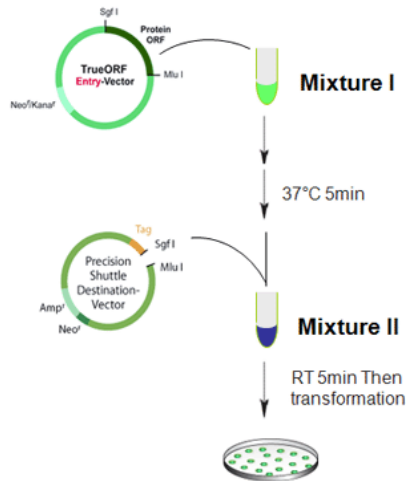
8. Pick at least 4-8 independent colonies to do miniprep from each ligation. Confirm the insert by restriction digestion and/or vector primer sequencing.

Transfer ORF from TrueORF Entry Vector to destination vectors

The ORF sequence can be easily subcloned into any of OriGene's destination vectors. Follow a simple and efficient cut-and-ligate process, any TrueORF insert to be transferred to our PrecisionShuttle destination vector.

Reagents Required:

- TrueORF cDNA clone
- Destination vector
- Sgf I (Asis I) and Mlu I, or Sgf I (Asis I) and Rsr II
- T4 DNA ligase
- Water, nuclease free



To transfer the protein-coding region from the TrueORF Entry Vector (donor) to a PrecisionShuttle destination vector (recipient), choose the appropriate destination vector with the desired tag options

(<https://www.origene.com/products/vectors>). There are three main types of PrecisionShuttle destination vectors, each of which is designed to express 1) a native (untagged) protein, 2) an N-terminally tagged protein, or 3) a C-terminally tagged protein. The translation of an N-terminally tagged protein initiates from the ATG of the tag and continues through the ORF of the gene of interest, whereas translation of an untagged or a C-terminally tagged protein initiates from the ATG of the protein of interest. The ORF of a C-terminally tagged protein is followed by either a single tag, or a double-tag including a short spacer (5-6 amino acid residues). The transfer protocol between TrueORF vectors is shown schematically in Figure 4, and is detailed below.*

1. Digest the TrueORF Entry clone:

Component	Volume
10X restriction buffer**	2 μ l
Sgf I (10 U/ μ l)	0.6 μ l

Mlu I (10 U/μl)	0.6 μl
nuclease-free water	13.8 μl
TrueORF Entry vector (200 ng)	3 μl
Total volume	20 μl

Incubate at 37°C for 3 hrs.

- Digest the TrueORF destination vector:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Volume</u>
10X restriction buffer	2 μl
Sgf I (10 U/μl)	0.6 μl
Mlu I (10 U/μl)	0.6 μl
nuclease-free water	14.8 μl
TrueORF destination vector (200ng)	2 μl
Total volume	20 μl

* For the 4% of the clones that have internal Sgf I or Mlu I sites, please use the appropriate combination of restriction sites as recommended by OriGene

Incubate at 37°C for 3 hrs. Add 0.5 μl antarctic phosphatase (units used according to the manufacturer's protocol) to the digestion, and continue to incubate at 37°C for an additional 30 minutes.

- Purify the digestion using a commercial PCR purification column and elute in 20 ul 10 mM Tris.
- Set up a ligation reaction:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Volume</u>
10 x T4 DNA ligation buffer	1 μl
T4 DNA Ligase (4U/μl)	0.75 μl
nuclease-free water	3.25 μl
digested DNA from Step 1 (ORF clone)	2 μl
digested DNA from Step 2 (destination vector)	3 μl
Total volume	10 μl

Incubate the ligation reaction at room temperature for 1 hour.

- Transform the ligation reaction into high-efficiency, competent *E. coli* cells ($\geq 1 \times 10^8$ CFU/μg DNA) following the appropriate transformation protocol. Plate the transformants on LB-agar plates supplemented with 100 μg/ml ampicillin for non-Lenti vectors or 34ug/ml chloramphenicol for Lenti vectors.
- Pick at least four colonies for subsequent DNA purification and screening. Amplify and purify the selected clone(s) by growing overnight in liquid LB containing the corresponding antibiotics (ampicillin for non-lenti vectors, chloramphenicol for lenti vectors), then isolating the DNA using standard plasmid purification procedures.

7. Confirm the insert by restriction digestion and/or vector primer sequencing using VP1.5 for 5' end sequencing and XL39 for 3' end sequencing (non-lenti vectors). A different set of sequencing primers are used for TrueORFs cloned in Lenti vectors; V2.0 as the forward sequencing, LR50 as the reverse sequencing primer.

Protocol for Transient Transfection

A sample protocol is listed here for experiments performed in 24-well plates. If performing experiments in other cell culture plates, simply multiply the suggested quantities by the relative surface area of your plate. See Table 1 for more details. OriGene recommends using TurboFectin 8.0 (TF81001) for all transfections. It consistently produces high transfection efficiency and high protein overexpression.

1. Preparation of cells
 - a) Approximately 18-24 hours before transfection, plate $\sim 5 \times 10^4$ adherent cells or $\sim 5 \times 10^5$ suspension cells per well to obtain 50-70% confluence on the following day.
2. Preparation of the Turbofectin 8.0/DNA Complexes, prepare immediately prior to transfection:
 - a. Dilute 0.5 μg of DNA in 50 μL of Opti-MEM I (Gibco 51985). Vortex gently.
 - b. Add 1.5 μL of Turbofectin 8.0 to the diluted DNA (not the reverse order) and Pipette gently to mix completely.
 - c. Incubate for 15 minutes at room temperature.

Note: We recommend starting with the ratios of Turbofectin 8.0 and DNA listed in Table 2; however, subsequent optimization may further increase the transfection efficiency.

3. Transfection

Gently add the Turbofectin 8.0 / DNA mixture from step 2 drop-wise to each well (already containing about 500 μL of culture medium). Gently rock the plate back-and-forth and from side-to-side to achieve even distribution of the complexes. Incubate at 37°C for 24-48 hrs.

Table 1. Recommended starting transfection conditions for Turbofectin 8

Tissue Culture Vessel	Growth area, cm ² /well	μg of DNA	Ratio of Turbofectin:DNA
96-well plate	0.35	0.1-0.3	3:1
24-well plate	2	0.25-1.25	3:1
12-well plate	4	0.5-2.5	3:1
6-well plate	9.5	1-5	3:1
35 mm plate	8	1-5	3:1
60 mm plate	20	2-10	3:1
100 mm plate	60	5-15	3:1

Protocol for Stable Transfection

Perform a transfection as described above (protocol for transient transfection). Twenty-four hrs post-transfection, passage the cells (at 1:10 or higher dilution) into fresh growth medium containing selective agent (the correct dose needs to be determined by killing curve experiment). A mock transfection should be performed in parallel as a control. Grow and passage the cells as necessary, maintaining selection pressure by keeping the selective agent in the growth medium. After 1-2 weeks, a large number of the cells will be killed; the cells that remain growing in the selective medium have retained the expression plasmid, which stably integrates into the genome of the targeted cells. Monitor the mock control to ensure the cells are dying.

Lenti-based protocols:

NOTE: Performing Lentiviral experiments may require special laboratory conditions and/or permissions (BL2). Follow the guidelines and regulations of your institution. Perform the experiments with due caution to avoid exposure to infectious materials.

A. Production of pseudovirus (10 cm plate format, the production size can be scaled up or down accordingly):

1. Day 1, plate HEK293T cells in a 10 cm dish to approximately 40% confluency the day before transfection. Cells should reach 65-70% confluency within 24 hours.

2. Day 2

(1) Re-suspend the Lenti plasmid in 100 μ l dH₂O to obtain a final concentration 100 ng/ μ l. Label a sterile 1.5 mL eppendorf tube and to the tube, add 50 μ l of the Lenti plasmid (5 μ g) and 50 μ l of the packaging plasmids (6 μ g) from the Lenti-vpak packaging kit, cat# TR30022.

(2) Add 110 μ l Opti-MEM (Invitrogen) to the tube. Mix the DNA by gently vortexing. Add 44 μ l of MegaTran 1.0 (or other transfection reagent) to the DNA tube. Mix the solution by gently vortexing.

(3) Set the DNA tube inside a cell culture hood for 20 mins.

(4) Transfer the DNA : transfection solution to the 10 cm plate prepared the day before by gentle and even dropping. Gently rock the plate back-and-forth and from side-to-side to achieve even distribution of the transfection complex. Incubate the plate in a CO₂ incubator.

3. Day 3, change the growth medium and continue to incubate the plate for 48 hours.

4. Day 5

(1) After the 48 hour incubation, transfer the cell culture supernatant to a 15 mL centrifuge tube.

(2) Centrifuge the tubes at 3K RPM for 10 mins and filter the supernatant through a syringe filter (0.45 micron) and collect the viral solution to a new sterile tube.

5. The viral particles are ready to be used. They can be stored at 4 °C for 2 weeks or put at -80 °C for long-term storage.

B. Transduction of lentivirus to target cells

1. Day 1, plate target cells in three 10 cm plates at a density that will produce approximately 60% confluency in 24 hours. Note: other size formats can also be used depending on the nature of your experiment. Adjust the reagent amount accordingly.

2. Day 2, Remove the growth media from the plates prepared the day before. To plate 1, add 4.5 mL of fresh growth medium and 0.5 mL of Lentiviral particles; To plate 2, add 4.0 mL of growth medium and 1 mL of Lentiviral particles; To plate 3, add 2.5 mL of growth medium and 2.5 mL of Lentiviral particles (for a low titer viral preparation, the amount of virus added can be increased to 5 mL). Mix the solution by gentle swirling.
3. Add 5 μ l polybrene (1,000x, 8 mg/mL) to each plate. Mix by gentle swirling.
4. Incubate 18–20 hours at 37°C in a humidified 5% CO₂ incubator. Overnight incubation may be avoided when toxicity of the lentiviral particles is a concern. Cells may be incubated for as little as 4 hours before changing the medium containing lentiviral particles.
5. The transduced cells are ready for downstream analyses such as RNA and protein detection.

Troubleshooting

For questions not addressed here, please contact OriGene's Technical Support professionals. You may dial 888-267-4436 from any US location, or 49-5221-34606-0 for EU customers. E-mail inquiries to techsupport@origene.com are also invited.

No colonies or low number of colonies from transformation

Cause	Remedy
The competent cells used in the transformation were not as efficient as necessary.	Obtain a fresh batch of competent cells and ensure that the efficiency is $\geq 1 \times 10^8$ CFU/ μ g DNA by performing a separate transformation reaction with a transformation-qualified control (usually a fixed amount of supercoiled plasmid such as pUC19). In some extreme cases, especially for larger inserts (>5 kb), higher efficiency cells or electroporation may be required. Should a gene be toxic to the cells, growing bacteria at a lower temperature, such as 30°C or transforming into strains that reduce the copy number can increase the odds of obtaining colonies (i.e. ABLE-C or ABLE-K strains from Stratagene; CopyCutter from Epicentre).
Too little DNA was used in the transformation reaction.	Add more DNA (but not more than 10% of the volume of competent cells used).
The ligation of the ORF donor DNA	1) The ligase enzyme may not work

into the recipient plasmid was not successful.	properly. Repeat the reaction with fresh ligase and ligation buffer (which contains the temperature-sensitive component, ATP) or perform troubleshooting as recommended by the manufacturer of the ligase. 2) Change amounts and ratios of DNA (ORF insert vs vector) in the reaction.
The wrong antibiotic selection plate was used.	Make sure to use an LB-agar plate containing the correct antibiotics (e.g. 25 µg/ml kanamycin for Entry vector and 100 µg/ml ampicillin for other non-lentiviral destination vectors, chloramphenicol 34ug/ml for lentiviral vectors).

Too high self-ligation background (no insert) from destination vector

Cause	Remedy
The destination plasmid was not completely digested.	Allow the digestion reaction to continue for 3 hrs or overnight at 37°C.
The dephosphorylation of the destination plasmid was not complete, and the destination vector religated with its own fragment.	Increase the concentration of antartic phosphatase and/or the length of the dephosphorylation incubation as recommended by the ligase manufacturer.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the PrecisionShuttle System?

Answer: The PrecisionShuttle System provides a restriction-enzyme-based approach to append different tags to one's open reading frame (ORF) of interest.

What is the difference between OriGene's Entry vector and the destination vectors?

Answer: The major differences are the antibiotic selection marker and the epitope tags or markers. The Entry vector carries kanamycin resistance (25 µg/ml), while all other non-lenti destination vectors contain the ampicillin resistance gene (100 µg/mL) or chloramphenicol (34 µg/mL) for lenti vectors. This allows simple screening for successful subcloning products. All of the vectors have a unique combination of N- and C-terminal epitope tags or a fluorescent marker, as described in Table I.

How do you transfer the ORF insert I purchased into another tagging vector?

Answer: Over 100 destination vectors are designed with compatible MCS for easy shuttling of TrueORF inserts. This can be performed easily using a specific pair of restriction enzymes to cut-and-ligate subclone into the desired destination

vector. OriGene also provides a custom cloning service available through our website.

What are the functional aspects of the pCMV6-AC-GFP vector?

Answer: Like all OriGene vectors, the CMV promoter drives the heterologous expression of the specified open reading frame (ORF) which is in-frame with Turbo Green Fluorescent Protein (tGFP) on the C-terminus. tGFP expression permits the positive identification of mammalian cells transfected with plasmid. The neomycin resistance gene is also expressed downstream of the SV40 promoter within the same vector and permits positive selection of transfected cells as well as stable cell line production. For bacterial amplification, the ampicillin resistance gene is engineered on the opposite strand.

OriGene's GFP is listed as TurboGFP. How is this different from other available GFPs?

Answer: TurboGFP is a fully licensed, 26kDA protein product from Evrogen JSC that works well in standardized GFP assays. Excitation max is 482nm and emission max is 502nm. It yields 112% of the brightness compared to eGFP and has no known cellular toxicity. It is an isoform of the naturally occurring protein from *Pontellina plumata* that has been optimized for rapid labeling of cells/organelles and tracking of promoter activity. It is a perfect choice for monitoring transient protein expression.

Has OriGene fully sequenced all TrueORF clones?

Answer: Not always. When transferring the cDNA into the TrueORF Entry Vector, OriGene always uses fully sequenced plasmids as templates and Phusion High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (New England Biolabs), which has a mutation rate less than 4×10^{-7} . This ensures the highest fidelity of every TrueORF clone. After cloning into the Entry vector, each of OriGene's TrueORF clones was sequenced at both the 5' and 3' ends, and the resulting sequence was matched to the corresponding reference sequence. For ORFs of 1 Kb or less in length, the 5' and 3' sequencing reads have covered the full ORF. For longer cDNAs, the ORF was not fully covered by sequencing reads.

Do TrueORF clones exactly match the reference gene sequence?

Answer: All TrueORF clones are guaranteed to match the corresponding ORF sequence posted on our website. However, some clones may contain nucleotide changes compared to the published reference sequences. This is due to SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms) reflecting the unique differences from genes expressed in different tissues and different individuals. Published references may represent a different SNP than the OriGene transcript. Should a specific SNP be required, this can be obtained via OriGene's wholly owned subsidiary company, Blue Heron (www.blueheronbio.com).

Sequences of the sequencing primers

Answer: VP1.5 (forward seq primer)
5' GGACTTTCCAAAATGTCG 3' Tm=51C

XL39 (reverse seq primer)
5' ATTAGGACAAGGCTGGTGGG 3' Tm=60C

V2.0 (forward seq for Lenti vector, non-EF1a promoter)
5' AGAGCTCGTTTAGTGAA 3' Tm=48C

LR50 (reverse seq for Lenti vector)
5' CAGAGGTTGATTATCGATAAG3'Tm=55C

EF50 (forward seq primer for vectors with EF1a promoter)
5' CTTCCATTCAGGTGTCGTGAC 3' Tm=55C

Can I transfer large ORFs using this system?

Answer: It has been reported that ORFs larger than 4 Kb are unstable in recombination-based systems; conversely, our restriction digest-based vector system has no real size limitation. An ORF up to 18 Kb can be readily transferred from one vector to another.

What restriction enzymes should I use if Sgf I or Mlu I sites are present in my ORF?

Answer: While 96% of all human and mouse ORFs can use the Sgf I - Mlu I combination, some ORFs do contain internal Sgf I or Mlu I site(s). Most of those ORFs can be transferred using another rare cutter, Asc I which is down stream of SgfI; Rsr II, whose restriction site is upstream of Mlu I, or Not I, whose site is immediately downstream of Mlu I. Using one of the five different subcloning combinations, any ORF can be transferred from one vector to another. The recommended subcloning combination for every TrueORF cDNA is listed in the product information on our website.

Why does my Certificate of Analysis (COA) indicate cloning sites other than Sgf I and Mlu I?

Whenever one or both of these sites is present within the ORF of the transcript, the PrecisionShuttle vectors share other sites engineered to accommodate this, e.g. Rsr II or Asc I.

What sites should I use to transfer a TrueORF clone into the Gateway system?

Answer: There are multiple sites in pCMV6-Entry than can be used to move the insert of a TrueORF clone into any of Gateway's Entry vectors (pENTR-1A, -2B, -3C, -4, and -11). These sites are EcoR I, Sal I, BamH I and Kpn I at the 5' end, and Not I at the 3' end.

What restriction sites are available for subcloning into other vectors?

Answer: The vector map and nucleotide sequence can be found at <https://www.origene.com/products/vectors>

How many amino acids are present in the linker between my protein and tGFP?

Answer: To accommodate the Mlu I cloning site, which maintains the proper reading frame, this vector appends a threonine and arginine. This is far fewer than with other recombination-based shuttling systems.

Which vector serves the negative control for the GFP fusion clone?

Answer: Either pCMV6-AN-GFP (Cat# PS100019) or pCMV6-AC-GFP (cat# PS100011).

I can not detect any protein expression from the TrueORF clone in a pCMV6-Entry vector. What are my options?

Answer: 1) Check your transfection efficiency. We recommend using a plasmid that expresses a fluorescent marker (pCMV6-AN-GFP PS100019). 2) Anti-FLAG antibodies from other vendors are not as sensitive as OriGene's optimized 4C5-Anti-DDK antibody (TA50011) when directed at the same epitope. In addition, the expression level of the C-terminal tagged fusion protein depends on the nature of the target protein, such as mRNA stability, translation efficiency and protein stability.

I can not see any green fluorescence with the TrueORF clone in a pCMV6-AC-GFP vector. What are my options?

Answer: Your protein of interest might quench the fluorescence of tGFP. To confirm, we suggest you first run a Western Blot with a protein specific antibody or anti-tGFP. The molecular weight of the tGFP fusion protein is approximately 26 kDa larger than the endogenous protein. We recommend OriGene's Anti-tGFP antibody (part number TA150041). Antibodies against other GFPs will not recognize tGFP. The expression level of the C-terminally GFP tagged fusion protein depends on the nature of the target protein, such as mRNA stability, translation efficiency and protein stability.

What does your disclaimer mean?

Answer: OriGene's disclaimer for the TrueORF clones reads as follows: "Our molecular clone sequence data has been matched to the accession number below as a point of reference. Note that the complete sequence of our molecular clones may differ from the sequence published for this corresponding accession number, e.g., by representing an alternative RNA splicing form or single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP)."

The NCBI RefSeq mRNA sequences are continuously being revised, as some may have been derived from aberrantly spliced transcripts or generated by incorrect prediction of intron-exon junctions in silico. These sequences are therefore used only as a "reference" and not as a "standard". OriGene's clones are isolated from full-length cDNA libraries and may differ from the reference sequence for this reason.

What is the TrueORF Guarantee?

Answer: OriGene warrants that the product will meet specifications listed. At OriGene's discretion, free replacement of any non-conforming product will be made if OriGene is notified within 30 days of product receipt. If you experience any difficulty with any OriGene product, please contact our Technical Support Staff at 888-267-4436, or 301-340-3188 outside the US.

Lentiviral vector FAQ**Q: Is there any safety issue with this pLenti vector?**

A: The pLenti vector is a third generation lentiviral vector and it is the safest lentiviral vector because both LTRs are truncated. Please contact the biosafety office at your institution prior to use of the pLenti vector for permission and for further institution-specific instructions. BL2/(+) conditions should be used at all times when handling lentivirus. All decontamination steps should be performed using 70% ethanol/1% SDS. Gloves should be worn at all times when handling lentiviral preparations, transfected cells or the combined transfection reagent and lentiviral DNA.

Q: What is unique about the 3rd generation of Lentiviral vectors?

The 3rd generation lentiviral vectors are safer than the 2nd generation vectors. The 3rd generation packaging systems – express gag and pol from one packaging vector and rev from another. The 3rd generation packaging systems DO NOT express tat (Trans-Activator of Transcription).

Q: What cell line should be used in order to produce lentivirus?

A: HEK293T cells are commonly used to produce lentivirus. The HEK293T cell line for producing lentiviral particles can be obtained from ATCC (www.atcc.org).

Q: How do I propagate the pLenti vector in *E. coli*?

A: Due to the long-terminal repeats in the lentiviral vector, recombination deficient *E. Coli*, such as Stbl3 from ThermoFisch is recommended. The lenti-viral vector can be amplified using high-efficiency, competent *E. coli* cells ($\geq 1 \times 10^8$ CFU/ μ g DNA) following the manufacturer's transformation protocol. Plate the transformants on LB-agar plates supplemented with 34 μ g/ml chloramphenicol.

Q: Can I use the pLenti vector for stable selection in mammalian cells?

A: Only a subset of the pLenti vectors have mammalian selectable markers and those without can not be used for mammalian selection. You can make stable cell lines using the pLenti-C-Myc-DDK-IRES-Puro vector. You might also be able to get stable cells by GFP sorting using the pLenti-C-Myc-DDK-IRES-GFP vector.

Q: How to clone an insert into the pLenti vector?

A: The multiple-cloning site of the pLenti vector is compatible with OriGene's precision shuttling system, a simple cut-and-ligation process. Please refer to the corresponding protocols in the TrueORF application guide.

Q: What is the size limit for the ORF that is to be cloned into the pLenti vector?

A: In general, lentiviral vectors have the capacity to accommodate an insert of 9 kb. However, ORFs larger than 4kb will dramatically decrease the packaging efficiency.

Q: Can pLenti vectors be used in direct transfections as opposed to making virus?

OriGene's pLenti vectors can also be used in transient transfections to achieve expression of the transgene. This usually involves lower levels of protein production due to diminished transfection efficiency.

Q: What is the difference between a lentivirus and a retrovirus?

A: Lentiviruses are a subtype of retrovirus. The main difference between lentiviruses and standard retroviruses from an experimental standpoint is lentiviruses are capable of infecting both non-dividing and actively dividing cell types whereas standard retroviruses can only infect mitotically active cell types. Both lentiviruses and standard retroviruses use the gag, pol, and env genes for packaging. However, the isoforms of these proteins used by retroviruses and lentiviruses are different and lentiviral vectors may not be efficiently packaged by each other's packaging systems.

Q: Can I use a second generation packaging system with the pLenti vectors?

A: Yes, a second generation packaging system should work with OriGene's third generation pLenti vectors although we have not tested specifically about this.