

# General Stir Plate Protocol



ISB

- Put a magnetic stir bar into the desired container.
- Place the container onto the plate.
- Measure and transfer materials into container. Put the largest volumes in first and turn the plate on.
- Measure in the rest of the materials.

- Make sure to put the liquids in a bigger container than the actual liquid volume. For instance, if a procedure calls for 500mL of liquid, it is better to use a 1L container.
- When stirring, the volume will look greater than it actually is, so do not use this reading as a measurement.

ISB

Baliga Lab  
**Systems Education**  
experiences  
Institute for Systems Biology

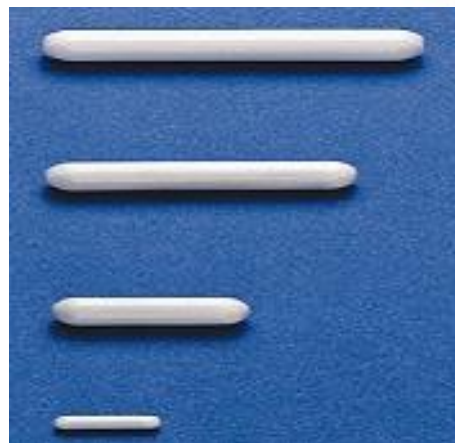
Institute for Systems Biology  
Baliga Lab

- If there is more than one container on the plate, putting a stir bar in the middle of the plate will balance out the magnetic field so that all the stir bars spin evenly.
- If there is more than one container on the stir plate, the stir bar movement inside the containers will cause the containers to “walk off” the stir plate, so they will need to be secured. This can be done with cardboard covers and tape. Set up shown below.



# General Stir Plate Protocol

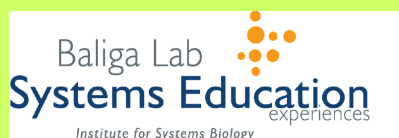
ISB



Pictures from:

- <http://www.pemed.com/lab/hotplates/hotplates.htm>
- <http://www.daigger.com/catalog/department/d-Stir+Bars/Stir+Bars>
- <http://www.opticsplanet.net/laboratory-apparatus-by-price-7.html>
- [http://www.uwplatt.edu/chemep/chem/chemscape/labdocs/catofp/mixpour/mixing/hp\\_ms/hotstir2.htm](http://www.uwplatt.edu/chemep/chem/chemscape/labdocs/catofp/mixpour/mixing/hp_ms/hotstir2.htm)

ISB



Institute for Systems Biology  
Baliga Lab