

Instructions for  
**AnaFix Gel Drying-Kit**

Cat. No: AN 10100 / AN 10200

AN 10100	1 Kit contains of:	2 Gel-drying frames for gel format 10 x 10 cm 8 clamps 200 sheets of cellophane 500 ml AnaRapid Gel-drying solution
AN 10200	1 Kit contains of:	1 Gel-drying frame for gel format 20 x 20 cm or 4 gels format 10 x 10 cm 8 clamps 100 sheets of cellophane 500 ml AnaRapid Gel-drying solution

## 1. General Guidelines

The AnaFix Gel-drying kit allows simple, safe and low-cost drying of polyacrylamide electrophoresis gels:

- Handling is quick and straight forward.
- The gels only take a few hours to dry by evaporation of the drying solution on the lab bench without shrinking, so there is no need for warmth or vacuum gel dryers.
- The dried gels can be photographed, used in densitometry and are ideal for overhead projection.
- The gels are also particularly suitable for long-term storage (e.g. filing for GLP/GMP-documentation).
- The gel-drying frames are suitable for every type of acrylamide gels.

## 2. Specifications

- Gel-drying frames  
Material: Polymethylmethacrylate  
Format: 120 x 120 x 2 mm or 250 x 250 x 2 mm  
Cut-out: 100 x 100 mm or 200 x 200 mm
- Clamps  
Material: Polyvinyl chloride  
Length: 50 mm

Pressure of clamps can be increased or decreased as required. Simply incubate clamps in hot water (~ 80°C) for a few minutes, bend into desired form (press together or pull apart) and allow to cool.

The plastics are resistant to alcohols, but not to organic solvents, such as Acetone or Chloroform. Clean the materials with demineralised water. Adding a mild detergent, if necessary.

- Cellophane  
Material: Cellophane, 60 g/m<sup>2</sup>  
Formate: 140 x 133 x 0,042 mm or  
230 x 230 x 0,042 mm

### 3. Handling of gel-drying frames

During staining, be sure to handle your gels with care. Gels damaged at the edges tend to tear apart from these points during the drying process.

- Equilibrate the gel before drying for 30 – 60 minutes, depending on the layer thickness in 30 – 50 ml AnaRapid gel drying solution. This treatment makes the gel more supple and helps prevent tearing during the drying process.
- Softly shake 2 sheets of cellophane in AnaRapid for about 60 seconds, but not longer than 2 minutes.
- Place the back of the frame (without the cut-out) on an inverted beaker.
- Roll a sheet of cellophane onto the back of the frame taking care to avoid air bubbles. Drop a bit of AnaRapid gel-drying solution on the top, so it will manage faster.
- Place the gel, **bubble-free**, in the middle of the cellophane sheet. Eliminate any trapped air bubbles to avoid tearing during the drying process.
- Starting at the bottom edge of the gel, roll the second sheet of cellophane **bubble-free** (adding a few drops of AnaRapid if necessary) over the gel towards the gel wells, so that the corners of the lower and upper cellophane sheets are in alignment.
- Place the cut-out frame on top of the stack and fix evenly in place with clamps. Draining all excessive drying solution.
- Allow the gel to dry at room temperature until it no longer feels cold (i.e. over night / over the weekend), normally between 12 - 36 hours.
- Dismantle the frame and peel the gel / cellophane stack off the back. Trim down overlapping cellophane along the gel edges.
- Press the gel lightly for 2 days, e.g. between the pages of a lab book or equivalent.