



Genomic DNA from forensic samples

User manual

NucleoSpin[®] DNA Forensic

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1 Components

1.1 Kit contents

NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic			
REF	10 preps 740840.10	50 preps 740840.50	250 preps 740840.250
NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Columns	10	50	250
Collection Tubes (2 mL)	20	100	500
Lysis Buffer FOL	13 mL	50 mL	250 mL
Binding Buffer FOB	7 mL	35 mL	2 x 100 mL
Wash Buffer FOW1	20 mL	2 x 20 mL	2 x 80 mL
Wash Buffer FOW2	6 mL	12 mL	50 mL
Elution Buffer FOE	13 mL	13 mL	30 mL
Liquid Proteinase K	2 x 120 µl	1250 µL	6 mL
Reducing Agent TCEP	14 mg	14 mg	2 x 14 mg
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1.2 Reagents, consumables and equipment to be supplied by user

Reagents

- Ethanol (96–100 %) to prepare Buffer FOW2

Consumables

- Disposable pipette tips
- NucleoSpin® Forensic Filters for incubation and lysate separation in one tube (or conventional 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tubes)
- NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set (REF 740943.25) and additional Buffer FOB (REF 740841.100) for isolation of genomic DNA from bones or teeth (sufficient for 250 samples)
- 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes for DNA elution

Equipment

- Manual pipettors
- Centrifuge for NucleoSpin® Forensic Filters and microcentrifuge tubes
- Vortex mixer
- Suitable homogenization device (e.g., mortar and pestle, rotor-stator)
- Personal protection equipment (e.g., lab coat, gloves, goggles)

1.3 About this user manual

It is strongly recommended that first time users of the **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** kit read the detailed protocol sections of this user manual. Experienced users, however, may refer to the Protocol at a glance instead. The Protocol at a glance is designed to be used only as a supplemental tool for quick referencing while performing the purification procedure. All technical literature is available on the internet at **www.mn-net.com**.

Please contact Technical Service regarding information about changes of the current user manual compared to previous revisions.

2 Product description

2.1 The basic principle

The **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** procedure is based on reversible adsorption of nucleic acids to the silica membrane in the **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Columns** under appropriate buffer conditions. Lysis is achieved by incubation of samples with Proteinase K at 56 °C. For the adjustment of binding conditions under which nucleic acids bind to the silica membrane, Buffer FOB is added to the lysate. After binding, the silica membrane is washed three times to remove contaminants and salts using Wash Buffers FOW1 and FOW2. Residual ethanol from previous wash steps is removed by a drying step. Finally, highly purified DNA is eluted with low salt Elution Buffer (FOE) and can directly be used for downstream applications.

2.2 Kit specifications

- **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** is designed for the small-scale preparation of highly pure genomic DNA from buccal swabs, small amounts of any tissue, cells or other forensic samples, for example, dried blood spots, 'trace and touch'-samples or cigarette filters. The purified DNA can be used directly as template for PCR, or any kind of enzymatic reaction.
- Age, storage conditions, quantity as well as consistency of sample material can affect DNA quality, and therefore the protocol may be adapted accordingly (e.g., increasing incubation time). For successful DNA preparation, it is essential that the sample is lysed well and separated afterwards – only clear lysates should be loaded onto NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Columns in order to avoid clogging of the silica membrane.
- The kit provides reagents for the purification of up to 7 µg of pure genomic DNA from suitable samples (typical yields for DNA isolation from buccal swabs: 1–3 µg DNA). Depending on the elution volume used, concentrations of 10–30 ng/µL can be obtained.
- Following lysis of samples with Proteinase K at 56 °C (recommended, optional: Proteinase K treatment can be performed at RT) **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** can be processed completely at room temperature, however, elution at 56 °C will increase the yield by about 15–20 %.
- Support protocol for the isolation of genomic DNA from human bones. For this application additional Buffer T1, Buffer B3, and Proteinase K are necessary. Therefore MACHEREY-NAGEL offers the NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set (see section 7.2, ordering information).
- The NucleoMag® DNA Forensic kit comply with all ISO 18385 requirements.

The ISO 18385 specifies demands for the manufacturing of products used in the collection, storage, and analysis of biological material for forensic DNA purposes. We implemented the ISO 18385 for the production of kits for forensic applications. Therefore we minimized the risk of human DNA contamination in all our products labeled for isolation of nucleic acids from forensic samples. All consumables used in our forensic product line are treated (post-production) with ethylene oxide (EO), the recommended method to remove amplifiable DNA prior to forensic sampling*.

* Shaw et al, 2008, Comparison of the effects of sterilisation techniques on subsequent DNA profiling. Int J Legal Med 122:29-33

2.3 Elution procedures

In addition to the standard method (recovery rate about 70–90 %), several modifications are possible to increase the yield, concentration, and convenience. Use elution buffer for one of the following procedures:

- High yield: Perform two elution steps with the volume indicated in the individual protocol. About 90–100 % of bound nucleic acid can be eluted.
- High concentration: Perform one elution step with 60 % of the volume indicated in the individual protocol. Concentration of DNA will be approximately 30 % higher than with standard elution. The yield of eluted nucleic acid will be about 80 %.
- High yield and high concentration: Apply half the volume of elution buffer as indicated in the individual protocol, incubate for 3 min and centrifuge. Apply a second aliquot of elution buffer, incubate and centrifuge again. Thus, about 85–100 % of bound nucleic acid is eluted in the standard elution volume at a high concentration.
- Elution at 70 °C: For certain sample types, heating the elution buffer to 70 °C increases the DNA yield.

Elution may also be performed with Tris-EDTA-buffer (TE) of pH equal or higher than 8. This will increase DNA stability especially during long term and/or multi use storage at 4 °C or ambient temperature by inhibition of omnipresent DNases. However, EDTA interferes, depending on the final concentration, with certain downstream applications. Note: Elution Buffer BE (5 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.5) provided with the kit does not contain EDTA.

For optimal performance of isolated DNA in downstream applications, we recommend eluting with the supplied elution buffer and storage, especially long term, at -20 °C. Freeze-thaw cycles will have no effect on most downstream applications. Possible exceptions are detection of trace amounts of DNA or long-range PCR (e.g., > 10 kbp). Multiple freeze-thaw cycles or storing DNA at 4 °C or room temperature may influence detection sensitivities or reaction efficiencies due to DNA shearing or adsorption to surfaces.

3 Storage conditions and preparation of working solutions

Attention: Buffers FOL, FOB and FOW1 contain chaotropic salt! Wear gloves and goggles!

CAUTION: Buffers FOB and FOW1 contain guanidinium thiocyanate which can form highly reactive compounds when combined with bleach (sodium hypochlorite). DO NOT add bleach or acidic solutions directly to the sample-preparation waste.

Storage conditions:

- All components of the **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** kit should be stored at room temperature (18–25 °C) and are stable for at least one year. Storage at lower temperatures may cause precipitation of salts. If a salt precipitation is observed, incubate the bottle at 30–40 °C for some minutes and mix well until all of the precipitate is redissolved. The performance of the kits is not affected by the salt precipitates

Before starting the **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** protocol, prepare the following:

- Wash Buffer FOW2:** Add the indicated volume of ethanol (96–100 %) to **Buffer FOW2 Concentrate** before use. Mark the label of the bottle to indicate that ethanol was added. Store Wash Buffer FOW2 at room temperature (18–25 °C) for up to one year
- Reducing Agent TCEP:** Add 1 mL of sterile H₂O to the TCEP vial and incubate for several minutes at room temperature. Mix the vial to dissolve the TCEP completely. Store dissolved TCEP at -20 °C.

NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic			
REF	10 preps 740840.10	50 preps 740840.50	250 preps 740840.250
Wash Buffer FOW2 (Concentrate)	6 mL Add 24 mL ethanol	12 mL Add 48 mL ethanol	50 mL Add 200 mL ethanol
Reducing Agent TCEP	1 vial (14 mg) Add 1 mL H ₂ O	1 vials (14 mg) Add 1 mL H ₂ O	2 vials (14 mg/vial) Add 1 mL H ₂ O to each vial

4 Safety instructions

The following components of the **NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic** kits contain hazardous contents.

Wear gloves and goggles and follow the safety instructions given in this section.

GHS classification

Only harmful features do not need to be labeled with H and P phrases up to 125 mL or 125 g.
Mindergefährliche Eigenschaften müssen bis 125 mL oder 125 g nicht mit H- und P-Sätzen gekennzeichnet werden.

Component	Hazard contents	GHS symbol	Hazard phrases	Precaution phrases
Inhalt	Gefahrstoff	GHS-Symbol	H-Sätze	P-Sätze
FOB	2-propanol 50–65 % 2-Propanol 50–65 % CAS 67-63-0	 DANGER GEFAHR	225, 319, 336	210, 233, 260D, 280sh
FOW1	guanidinium thiocyanate 15–30 % ethanol 35–55 % Guanidinthiocyanat 15–30 % und Ethanol 35–55 % CAS 64-17-5	 WARNING ACHTUNG	226, 413	210, 273,
Reducing Agent TCEP	TCEP(•HCl) 70–100 % TCEP(•HCl) 70–100 % CAS 51805-45-9	 WARNING ACHTUNG	315, 319	280

Hazard phrases

H 225	Highly flammable liquid and vapour. <i>Flüssigkeit und Dampf leicht entzündbar.</i>
H 226	Flammable liquid and vapour. <i>Flüssigkeit und Dampf entzündbar.</i>
H 315	Causes skin irritation. <i>Verursacht Hautreizungen.</i>
H 319	Causes serious eye irritation. <i>Verursacht schwere Augenreizung.</i>
H 336	May cause drowsiness or dizziness. <i>Kann Schläfrigkeit und Benommenheit verursachen.</i>
H 413	May cause long lasting harmful effects to aquatic life. <i>Kann für Wasserorganismen schädlich sein, mit langfristiger Wirkung.</i>

Precaution phrases

P 210	Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking. <i>Von Hitze, heißen Oberflächen, Funken, offenen Flammen sowie anderen Zündquellenarten fernhalten. Nicht rauchen.</i>
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- P 233 Keep container tightly closed.
Behälter dicht verschlossen halten.
- P 260D Do not breathe vapours.
Dampf nicht einatmen.
- P 273 Avoid release to the environment.
Freisetzung in die Umwelt vermeiden.
- P 280sh Wear protective gloves / eye protection.
Schutzhandschuhe / Augenschutz tragen.

For further information please see Material Safety Data Sheets (www.mn-net.com).
Weiterführende Informationen finden Sie in den Sicherheitsdatenblättern (www.mn-net.com).



The symbol shown on labels refers to further safety information in this section.
Das auf Etiketten dargestellte Symbol weist auf weitere Sicherheitsinformationen dieses Kapitels hin.

5 Protocol for the isolation of genomic DNA from forensic samples

Protocol at a glance

- For additional equipment and hardware requirements, refer to section 1.2 and 2.3, respectively.
- For detailed information on each step, see page 13.

Before starting the preparation:

- Check if Wash Buffer FOW2 and TCEP were prepared according to section 3.

1	Lyse sample		Add 20 µL Liquid Proteinase K, 5 µL TCEP solution (14 mg/mL) and 450 µL Buffer FOL Mix 56 °C, 1 h
2	Adjust DNA binding conditions		Add 580 µL FOB Vortex
3	Bind DNA		Load 600 µL lysate
			1 min at 11,000 x g.
			Load remaining lysate
			1 min at 11,000 x g.
4	Wash with FOW1		Add 400 µL FOW1 1 min at 11,000 x g.
			
5	Wash with FOW2		Add 400 µL FOW2 1 min at 11,000 x g.
	1 st wash		

6 Wash with FOW2 2nd wash		Add 400 µL FOW2 1 min at 11,000 x g.
7 Dry silica membrane		2 min at 11,000 x g.
8 Elute DNA		Add 50–100 µL Buffer FOE. 1 min RT 1 min at 11,000 x g.

Detailed protocol

- For additional equipment and hardware requirements, refer to section 1.2, respectively.

Before starting the preparation:

- Check if Wash Buffer FOW2 was prepared according to section 3.
-

Sample collection

Collect the samples with cotton, Dacron, or C.E.P. swabs. Scrape firmly against the inside of each cheek several times and let the swabs air dry.

The respective individual should not have consumed food or drink within 30 min before collection of the sample.

Samples should be processed immediately or stored at 4 °C.

1 Lyse samples

Add 20 µL of Liquid **Proteinase K**, 5 µL **TCEP (14 mg/mL)** and 450 µL **Lysis Buffer FOL** to a 1.5ml microcentrifuge tubes (optional: NucleoSpin® Forensic Filter tube) containing the sample. **Mix** well by vigorous shaking or by vortexing. Spin briefly (15 s; 1,500 x g) to collect any sample at the bottom of the tube.

Note: Buccal swab heads should be submerged into the lysis solution. Therefore, depending on type or size of buccal swab used, the FOL buffer volume has to be increased. Increasing volume of Proteinase K or TCEP is not required.

Incubate at **56 °C for 60 min** with shaking. Make sure that the tubes are securely closed. When using 1.5ml microcentrifuge tubes for lysis of e.g. buccal swabs, remove buccal swab and squeeze out to obtain **400 µL lysate**. Spin briefly (15 s; 1,500 x g) to collect any sample at the bottom of the tube.

Alternatively: Spin the NucleoSpin® Forensic Filter tube 1 min > 10,000 x g to separate carrier e.g. buccal swabs and collect lysate in the collection tube. Discard the filtering cartridge including the carrier material and proceed with the lysate in the collection tube.

2 Adjust DNA binding conditions

Add **580 µL of Binding Buffer FOB** to each sample and vortex the mixture

3 Bind DNA to NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Column

For each sample, place one NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Column into a Collection Tube. Apply the 600 µL of the mixture to the column. Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection Tube.

If the sample is not drawn completely through the matrix, repeat the centrifugation step at 11,000 x g. Discard flowthrough.

Apply the remaining volume of the mixture to the column. Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the tube into a new Collection Tube (provided).

If the sample is not drawn completely through the matrix, repeat the centrifugation step at 11,000 x g. Discard flowthrough.

4 Wash with FOW1

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW1** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x *g*. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection Tube.

5 Wash with FOW2 (1st)

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW2** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x *g*. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection Tube.

6 Wash with FOW2 (2nd)

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW2** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x *g*. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection Tube.

7 Dry silica membrane

Centrifuge the column for 2 min at 11,000 x *g*.

Residual ethanol is removed during this step.

8 Elute DNA

Place the NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Column into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube (not provided) and add **70 µL Buffer FOE** (preheated to 70 °C) onto the center of the NucleoSpin® membrane and incubate for 1 min at room temperature.

Centrifuge for **1 min** at **11,000 x *g***.

For alternative elution procedures see section 2.3.

6 Protocol for the isolation of genomic DNA from bone or teeth samples

Detailed protocol

- For lysis of bone and teeth samples the NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set (REF: 740943.25) and additional Buffer FOB (REF 740841.100) are required.
- For additional equipment and hardware requirements, refer to section 1.2, respectively.

Before starting the preparation:

- Check if Wash Buffer FOW2 and TCEP were prepared according to section 3.
- Additional Buffer T1, Buffer B3 and Proteinase K is necessary. The NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set (REF 740943.25) is compatible to the NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic kit. It is suited for approx. 250 preparations of genomic DNA from human bones in conjunction with the NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic kit (REF 740840.250).
- For each prep, 200 µL additional buffer is necessary (0.5 M EDTA/0.25 M PO₄³⁻, pH 8, not included in the NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set).

Sample preparation

Mill up to 150 mg of bone or teeth to a fine powder.

Transfer up to 150 mg of bone powder into a 2 mL microcentrifuge tube.

1 Pre-lyse samples

Add **200 µL phosphate buffer** (0.5 M EDTA/0.25 M PO₄³⁻, pH 8), **700 µL Buffer T1** and **20 µL Proteinase K**. Mix well by vigorous vortexing and incubate at 56 °C on a shaking incubator overnight.

Afterwards incubate for 48 h at 2–8 °C on a shaking incubator.

Note: Make sure the sample is completely submerged in the lysis solution and does not agglomerate at the bottom of the tube.

2 Lyse samples

Vortex the samples. Add **800 µL Buffer B3** and mix well by vigorous vortexing. Incubate for **10 min** at **70 °C**. Vortex briefly.

Centrifuge for **10 min** at **5,000 x g**. Transfer 800 µL of the supernatant to a new 2 mL microcentrifuge tube.

3 Adjust binding conditions

Add **1160 µL Binding Buffer FOB** to the lysate and vortex briefly.

4 Bind DNA to NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Column

Place the NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Binding column in a Collection Tube (provided). Load 600 µL lysate to the column. Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back in the Collection Tube.

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- 5 Repeat binding step.** Load 600 µL lysate to the column. Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back in the Collection Tube.
-

- 6 Load the remaining lysate to the column.** Centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column in a new Collection Tube (provided).

If the sample is not drawn completely through the matrix, repeat the centrifugation step at 11,000 x g. Discard flowthrough.

- 7 Wash with FOW1**

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW1** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection Tube.

- 8 Wash with FOW2 (1st)**

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW2** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection tube.

- 9 Wash with FOW2 (2nd)**

Add **400 µL Buffer FOW2** to the column and centrifuge for 1 min at 11,000 x g. Discard the flowthrough and place the column back into the Collection tube.

- 10 Dry silica membrane**

Centrifuge the column for 2 min at 11,000 x g.

Residual ethanol is removed during this step.

- 11 Elute DNA**

Place the NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic Column into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube (not provided) and add **100 µL Buffer FOE** (preheated to 70 °C) onto the center of the NucleoSpin® membrane and incubate for 1 min at room temperature.

Centrifuge for **1 min at 11,000 x g**.

For alternative elution procedures see section 2.3.

7 Appendix

7.1 Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible cause and suggestions
Poor DNA yield and quality	<i>Incomplete sample lysis</i>
	• Sample was not thoroughly homogenized and mixed with Lysis buffer, Proteinase K and TCEP. The mixture has to be shaken continuously. Alternatively, prolong incubation time with Proteinase K.
	<i>Reagents not prepared properly</i>
	• Prepare Buffer FOW2 and TCEP according to the instructions (section 3).
Suboptimal performance of DNA in downstream applications	<i>Suboptimal elution of DNA from the column</i>
	• For certain sample types, preheat Buffer BE to 70 °C before elution. Apply Buffer FOE directly onto the center of the silica membrane. • Elution efficiencies decrease dramatically, if elution is done with buffers with a pH < 7.0. Use slightly alkaline elution buffers like Buffer FOE (pH 8.5). • Especially when expecting high yields from large amounts of material, we recommend elution with 200 µL Buffer FOE and incubation of the closed columns in an incubator at 70 °C for 5 min before centrifugation.
	<i>Carry-over of ethanol or salts from wash buffers</i>
	• Make sure to centrifuge ≥ 1 min at 11,000 x g in order to remove all of ethanolic Buffer FOW2 before eluting the DNA. If, for any reason, the level of Buffer FOW2 has reached the column outlet after drying, repeat the centrifugation.
	<i>Contamination of DNA with inhibitory substances</i>
	• Do not elute DNA with TE buffer. EDTA may inhibit enzymatic reactions. Repurify DNA and elute in Buffer FOE.

7.2 Ordering information

Product	REF	Pack of
NucleoMag® DNA Forensic	744660.1	1 x 96 preps
	744660.4	4 x 96 preps
NucleoSpin® DNA Forensic	740840.10	1 x 10 preps
	740840.50	1 x 50 preps
	740840.250	1 x 250 preps
NucleoSpin® Forensic Filters (Bulk)	740988.50B	50 x 96 pieces
	740988.250B	250 x 96 pieces
	740988.1000B	1000 x 96 pieces
NucleoSpin® DNA Trace Bone Buffer Set	740943.25	1 set
Buffer FOB	740841.100	100 mL

Visit **www.mn-net.com** for more detailed product information.

7.3 Product use restriction / warranty

NucleoMag® Trace kit components are intended, developed, designed, and sold FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY, except, however, any other function of the product being expressly described in original MACHEREY-NAGEL product leaflets.

MACHEREY-NAGEL products are intended for GENERAL LABORATORY USE ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products are suited for QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ONLY! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall in any event only be used wearing adequate PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. For detailed information please refer to the respective Material Safety Data Sheet of the product! MACHEREY-NAGEL products shall exclusively be used in an ADEQUATE TEST ENVIRONMENT. MACHEREY-NAGEL does not assume any responsibility for damages due to improper application of our products in other fields of application. Application on the human body is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. The respective user is liable for any and all damages resulting from such application.

DNA/RNA/PROTEIN purification products of MACHEREY-NAGEL are suitable for IN VITRO-USES ONLY!

ONLY MACHEREY-NAGEL products specially labeled as IVD are also suitable for IN VITRO-diagnostic use. Please pay attention to the package of the product. IN VITRO-diagnostic products are expressly marked as IVD on the packaging.

IF THERE IS NO IVD SIGN, THE PRODUCT SHALL NOT BE SUITABLE FOR IN VITRO-DIAGNOSTIC USE!

ALL OTHER PRODUCTS NOT LABELED AS IVD ARE NOT SUITED FOR ANY CLINICAL USE (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO DIAGNOSTIC, THERAPEUTIC AND/OR PROGNOSTIC USE).

No claim or representations is intended for its use to identify any specific organism or for clinical use (included, but not limited to diagnostic, prognostic, therapeutic, or blood banking). It is rather in the responsibility of the user or - in any case of resale of the products - in the responsibility of the reseller to inspect and assure the use of the DNA/RNA/protein purification products of MACHEREY-NAGEL for a well-defined and specific application.

MACHEREY-NAGEL shall only be responsible for the product specifications and the performance range of MN products according to the specifications of in-house quality control, product documentation and marketing material.

This MACHEREY-NAGEL product is shipped with documentation stating specifications and other technical information. MACHEREY-NAGEL warrants to meet the stated specifications. MACHEREY-NAGEL's sole obligation and the customer's sole remedy is limited to replacement of products free of charge in the event products fail to perform as warranted. Supplementary reference is made to the general business terms and conditions of MACHEREY-NAGEL, which are printed on the price list. Please contact us if you wish to get an extra copy.

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