

How to prepare a microscope slide of particles derived from highlighter pen fluid:

quick and dirty

1. prepare a clean slide with a drop of MOWIOL™ (~20µl)
2. make a small dot of your marker of choice on a clean coverslip and immediately (before the dot dries) mount it on top of the MOWIOL™ drop

diluted

1. prepare a 1:3 mixture of glycerol and deionised water
2. place a 20µl drop of that mixture on a clean microscope slide
3. very briefly dip your marker of choice in the mixture
4. harvest the drop with a pipette, transfer it into an 1,5ml or 2ml reaction tube and fill up to 1ml with deionised water.
5. after thoroughly mixing the suspension, place a 5µl drop of it onto a clean coverslip and let it dry for 10-15 minutes
6. mount in MOWIOL™.

general hints

- Instead of MOWIOL™ you can take other mounting media, provided they do not contain any organic solvents.
- it is best to always prepare the samples fresh, as the stability of the particles over time when mounted is not as good as in commercial calibration beads