

A Closer Look at Insects

Teacher – Gram staining protocol

Teacher notes: The Gram staining technique requires relatively few reagents, is well defined, and can be successfully practiced with a few simple steps. I would recommend utilizing beakers (or cups) of water rather than rinsing over a sink, to avoid shearing force that can clear the bacteria off of the slides. Also, a tea candle can be utilized if alcohol burners or bunsen burners are not available. I have amended this protocol to include both gram negative bacteria (*E. coli*) and a mix of Gram negative and positive (greek yogurt). *** Crazy ideas: swabbing door knobs, water fountains, phone receivers etc.

Safety: gloves, safety glasses, Gram stain material can be disposed of according to *Flinn Suggested Disposal Method #26b* in the *Flinn Scientific Catalog/Reference Manual*

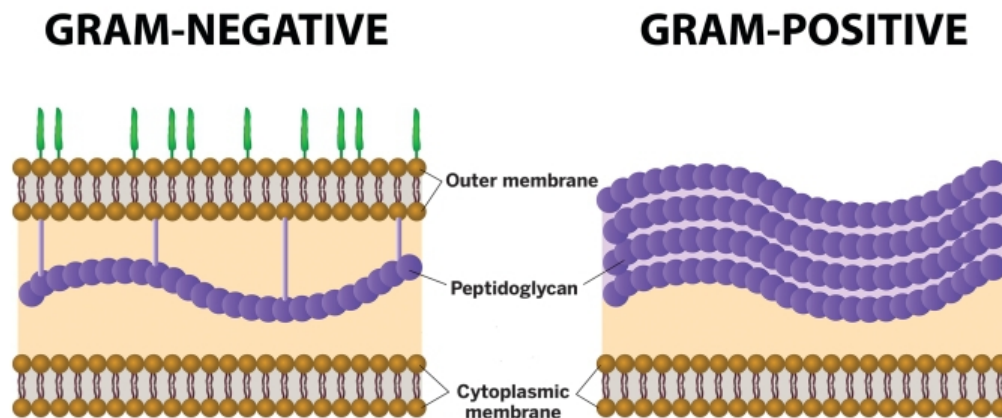


Image source: <https://cen.acs.org/articles/93/web/2015/04/New-Spin-Old-Gram-Stain.html>

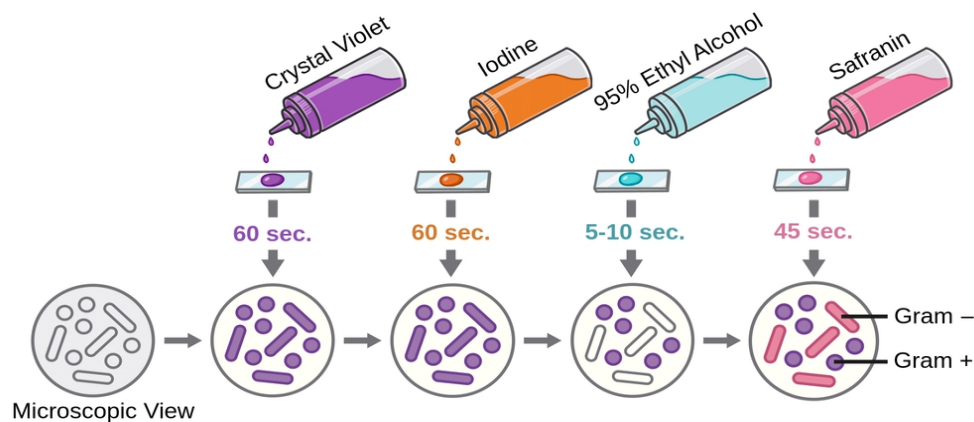


Image source: <https://theory.labster.com/steps-gramstain/>

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