Reusing reagent reservoirs

How to use foil seals effectively to have leak-proof reagent reservoirs

(It is a good practice to have the reservoirs prepared before the start of your experiment. We also recommend that the reservoirs are immediately rinsed after each experiment, if you desire to prep them as a big batch)

Items needed:

- Distilled water
- Kimwipes
- 100% alcohol (Ethanol or Iso-propyl alcohol)
- Sturdy, bent forceps (Figure 1)
- New foils (RVRFL) (Figure 2)
- Foil-pierced reagent reservoirs (Figure 3)

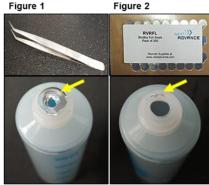


Figure 3 Figure 4

- 1. Remove the pierced foil from the bottom of the reservoirs.
 - **TIP:** Use a pair of bent forceps and get a good grip on the tab of the foil. Peel the foil slowly, and carefully to obtain complete removal of the foil. If you find any foil stuck (Figure 4), avoid using the tip of the forceps or any sharp objects to pry out any piece of foil stuck. This will damage the base of the reservoir causing it to leak and be non-usable.
- 2. Rinse the reservoir with distilled water and shake off excess water (no large droplets).
- 3. Take a ply of Kimwipes and squirt a little bit of alcohol onto the wipes.
- 4. Wipe the bottom of the reservoir tube, where the foil was stuck, to remove any adhesive or moisture left behind.
- 5. Allow the tubes to air dry. Make sure that there is no moisture inside or outside of the reservoirs.
- 6. Take 2 ply of Kimwipes and fold them twice to make 8 layers of padded surface.
- 7. Peel the new foil using the tab and align it to cover the entire bottom surface of the reservoir and push gently with your finger tip to firm the position of the foil.
- 8. Firmly press the foil-side straight down two to three times, on the padded Kimwipes to produce a tight seal of the foil on the bottom surface of the reservoir.
 - **TIP:** DO NOT twist when you push down.
- 9. Test the seal by adding 30mL of water and observe for 15 minutes. If there is no leak or no water that collects below the foil, then the sealed reservoir tubes are good to use.
- 10. Drain the water and shake off the excess and allow to air dry.
- 11. Save all the tested and air dried reservoirs in a closed bag for future use.

(We recommend not to reuse the reservoir tubes for more than 3 times)