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# The AnyGel™ Stands

Instruction Manual

Catalog Numbers

165-4131

165-5131

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## Warranty

Bio-Rad Laboratories warrants the AnyGel stands against defects in materials and workmanship for 1 year. If any defects occur in the equipment during this warranty period, Bio-Rad Laboratories will replace the defective parts free of charge. The following defects, however, are specifically excluded:

1. Defects caused by improper operation or cleaning.
2. Damage caused by repair or modifications done by anyone other than Bio-Rad Laboratories or an authorized agent.
3. Damage caused by use of fittings or other spare parts supplied by anyone other than Bio-Rad Laboratories.
4. Damage caused by accident or misuse.
5. Damage caused by disaster.
6. Corrosion or failure due to use of improper solvent or sample.

## Section 1 General Information

### 1.1 Introduction

The AnyGel stands provide vertical stabilization and easy access to virtually any size slab gel. The stands can also be used for loading gels or as a holding rack between gel processing steps. The 6-row AnyGel stand can be used for loading IPG strips onto Criterion™ or PROTEAN® size gel cassettes. The single-row format accommodates 3 mini, 2 Criterion, or 1 PROTEAN size gel. The 6-row model for high-volume, proteomic, and 2-D labs holds up to 18 mini, 12 Criterion, or 6 PROTEAN size gels.

### 1.2 Specifications

#### Construction

Stand base	Molded polycarbonate
Clamps	Molded polycarbonate

#### Approximate size (W x L x H)

Single-row stand	10 cm x 28 cm x 8 cm
6-row Stand	25.5 cm x 28 cm x 18 cm

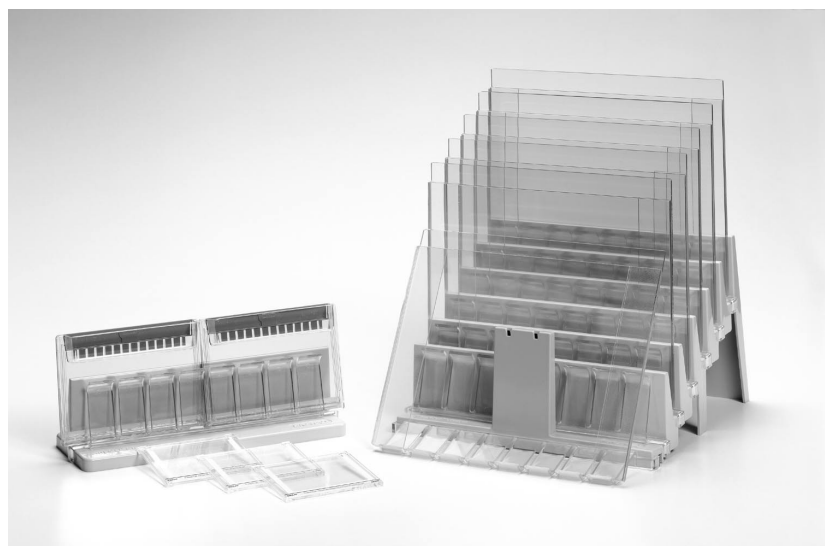
#### Gel capacity

Single-row stand	3 mini, 2 Criterion, or 1 PROTEAN size gel
6-row stand	18 mini, 12 Criterion, or 6 PROTEAN size gels

#### Weight

Single-row base	0.58 lb. (0.26 kg)
6-row base	2.10 lb. (0.95 kg)
Individual clamp	0.16 lb. (0.073 kg)

**Note:** The AnyGel stand components are not compatible with chlorinated hydrocarbons (e.g., chloroform), aromatic hydrocarbons (e.g., toluene, benzene), acetone, glacial acetic acid, carbon tetrachloride, chromic acid ( $\geq 10\%$ ), diethyl ether, dimethyl formamide, ethyl acetate, or xylene. Avoid prolonged exposure (over 5 days) to alcohol, including ethanol, amyl alcohol, and n-butanol. Use of such solvents voids all warranties. To ensure best performance of the AnyGel stands, become fully acquainted with these instructions before use. All components should be cleaned with a suitable laboratory detergent (Bio-Rad's cleaning concentrate, catalog # 161-0772), rinsed thoroughly with distilled water, and dried before use. Avoid strong basic detergents.



**Fig. 1. The AnyGel Stands.**

## Section 2 Setup for the AnyGel Stands

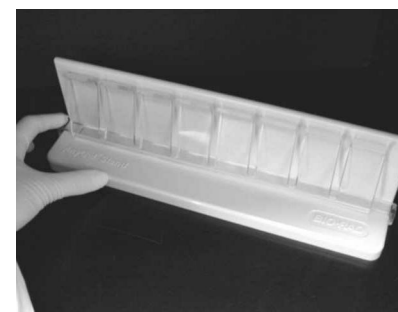
### 2.1 Assembly

1. Place the base flat on the benchtop with the words AnyGel Stand and Bio-Rad in front.

2. Position the clamp on the base so the straight edge is against the wall and the clamp curves towards the front at the top (see Figure 1 for correct orientation).
3. First, hook one side of the clamp in the notch (Figure 2.1a).
4. Press down firmly on the other end of the clamp using your thumb to snap the clamp into position (Figure 2.1b). The clamp will fit very tightly.
5. **6-row stand:** – Repeat for the remaining clamps.
6. **6-row stand:** – The seventh clamp can be easily inserted by sliding it on from below, or hook one side as in Step 3 and then snap on the other side (Figure 2.1c).



**Fig. 2.1a.** Hook one side of the clamp in the notch.



**Fig. 2.1b.** Press firmly to snap on the clamp.



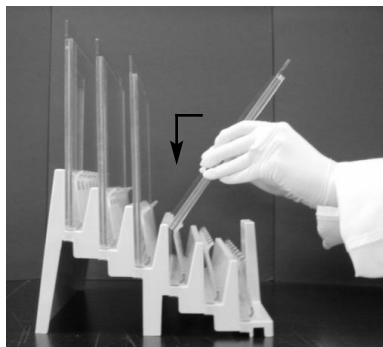
**Fig. 2.1c.** Snap on the seventh clamp in the front of the 6-row stand.

## Section 3

### Using the AnyGel Stands

#### 3.1 Inserting Gel Cassettes into the AnyGel Stand

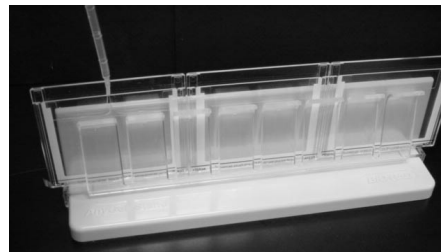
1. Insert the gel cassette at a 45° angle between the clamp and the base (Figure 3.1).
2. Bring the gel cassette to a vertical position while sliding the cassette behind the clamp and onto the base (Figure 3.1, arrow).
3. The bottom of the gel cassettes should be resting firmly on the base of the clamp.



**Fig. 3.1.** Hold the gel cassette at an angle above the AnyGel stand, then lift the cassette to a vertical position while sliding it down into the stand.

#### 3.2 Casting Gels

1. After inserting the cassettes, cast the gels and insert combs as usual (Figure 3.2).
2. Remove polymerized gels from the stand by lifting the gel cassette by the sides, being careful not to squeeze the gel cassette in the middle.

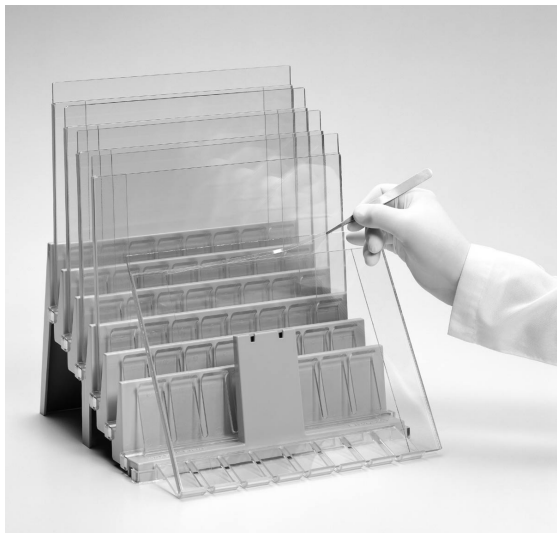


**Fig. 3.2.** Casting mini gels in the empty Ready Gel® cassette in the 6-row AnyGel stand.

#### 3.3 Loading IPG Strips on 2-D Slab Gels

The angled position on the seventh clamp in front of the 6-row stand is the optimal position for IPG strip loading (although the vertical position is also suitable for IPG strip loading).

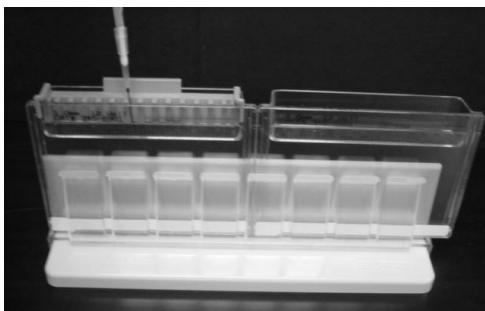
1. Place the gel cassette on top of the seventh clamp that has been previously attached to the 6-row AnyGel stand, with the bottom of the gel cassette seated in the curved part of the clamp.
2. Lean the gel cassette back to rest against the narrow front wall of the stand.
3. Insert the IPG strip onto the 2-D slab gel using forceps by sliding the plastic backing of the IPG strip downward against the back plate (Figure 3.3).
4. Ensure there are no air gaps between the IPG gel and the 2-D gel.
5. Overlay the strip with molten agarose.
6. Once the agarose has solidified, move the gel cassette to a vertical slot in order to continue loading other gel cassettes.



**Fig. 3.3.** Loading an IPG strip on a PROTEAN Plus 2-D gel in the 6-row AnyGel stand.

### 3.4 Loading Liquid Samples into Criterion Welled-Gels

1. Once the Criterion cassette has been inserted in the stand, pour enough running buffer in the upper buffer chamber to fill the wells. Rinse out the wells.
2. Insert appropriate sample loading guide, if desired.
3. Load the sample in each well using sample loading tips (Figure 3.4).



**Fig. 3.4.** Loading a Criterion gel using a sample loading guide in the single-row AnyGel stand.

**Note:** Other welled-gels may be loaded using the AnyGel stands by filling the wells with running buffer and then loading using sample loading tips. However, because these gels do not have a built-in upper buffer chamber, it is not as useful to load the gels in the AnyGel stands. We recommend forming the upper buffer chamber in the usual way and loading in the appropriate tank.

## Section 4 Maintenance

### 4.1 Cleaning the AnyGel Stands

Regular cleaning is recommended to maximize the lifespan of the AnyGel stands. The stands should be cleaned with mild detergent (Bio-Rad's cleaning concentrate, catalog # 161-0772) and rinsed with distilled water and dried between each use. It is not necessary to remove the clamps before washing the AnyGel stands.

**Note:** Avoid use of strong basic detergents.

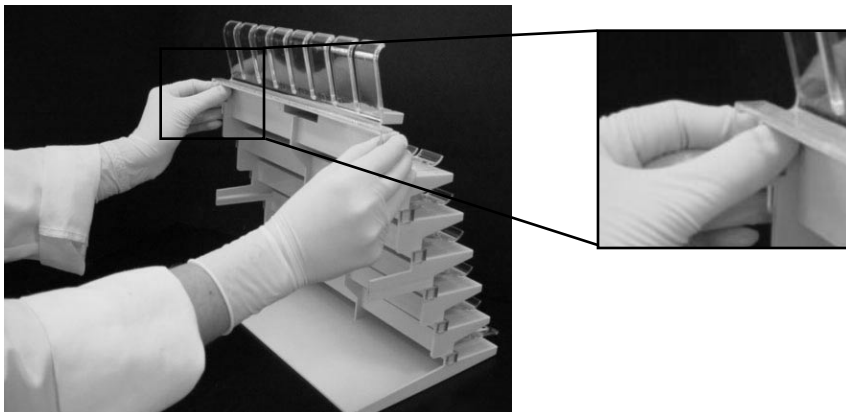
### 4.2 Removing the Clamps

#### 4.2.1 Removing the Seventh Clamp in Front of the 6-Row Stand

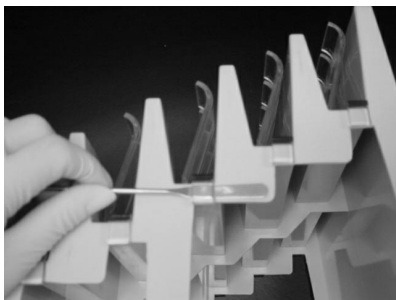
1. Tilt the entire stand backwards and balance it on the tallest back wall.
2. Slide the clamp forward off the base (Figure 4.2.1).

#### 4.2.2 Removing the Clamps From the Rows on Top of the Stand

1. If the user cannot remove the clamps by hand, insert a small tool, such as a thin spatula, under the piece of the clamp that wraps around the base where it snaps into place (Figure 4.2.2a).
2. Gently lift or rotate the spatula until the clamp pops off the base on the one side (Figure 4.2.2b).
3. Once one side is released the clamp can be removed easily.



**Fig. 4.2.1.** Removing the seventh clamp in front.



**Fig. 4.2.2a.** Insert a thin spatula under the clamp.



**Fig. 4.2.2b.** Rotate the spatula until the clamp pops off.

## Section 5 Product Information

### Catalog Number Description

#### AnyGel Stands

165-4131	AnyGel Stand, single-row, includes one single-row base, one clamp, instructions
165-5131	AnyGel Stand, 6-row, includes one 6-row base, 7 clamps, instructions
165-4132	Replacement clamps, 2

#### Empty Criterion Cassettes, Combs, and Accessories

345-9901	Criterion Empty Cassettes, 1.0 mm thick with 12+2 comb, 10
345-9902	Criterion Empty Cassettes, 1.0 mm thick with 18-well comb, 10
345-9903	Criterion Empty Cassettes, 1.0 mm thick with 26-well comb, 10
345-9904	Criterion Empty Cassettes, 1.0 mm thick with prep+2 comb, 10
345-9905	Criterion Empty Cassettes, 1.0 mm thick with IPG comb, 10
161-0990	Empty Ready Gel Cassettes, 10
161-0994	10-Well Combs, 10
161-0995	15-Well Combs, 10
161-0996	2-D/Prep Well Combs, 10
161-0997	50 $\mu$ l Well Combs, 10
161-0998	12-Well Combs, 10
161-0999	9-Well Combs, 10
165-6006	Criterion Sample Loading Guide, 12+2 well, 1
165-6007	Criterion Sample Loading Guide, 18-well, 1
165-6008	Criterion Sample Loading Guide, 26-well, 1