



## Product Specifications

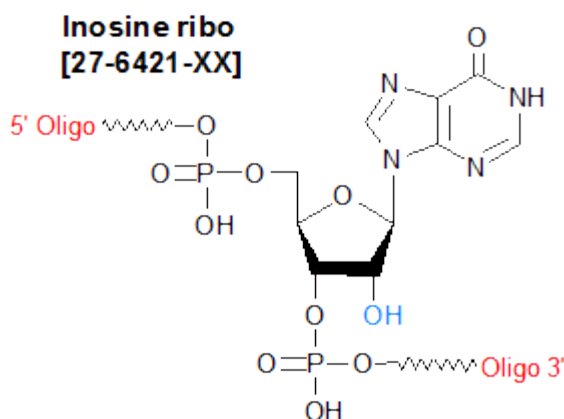
Custom Oligo Synthesis, antisense oligos, RNA oligos, chimeric oligos, Fluorescent dyes, Affinity Ligands, Spacers & Linkers, Duplex Stabilizers, Minor bases, labeled oligos, Molecular Beacons, siRNA, phosphonates Locked Nucleic Acids (LNA); 2'-5' linked Oligos

## Oligo Modifications

For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures for clinical purposes.

### Inosine ribo [rl]

Category	Others
Modification Code	rl
Reference Catalog Number	27-6421
5 Prime	Y
3 Prime	Y
Internal	Y
Molecular Weight(mw)	330.19



Inosine (dl & rl) is classified as a nucleotide base analog; it is structurally similar to guanosine, but is missing the 2-amino group. Because it is able to form two hydrogen bonds with each of the four natural nucleotide bases (1), it is often used by researchers as a "universal" base meaning that it can base pair with all the naturally occurring bases in synthetic oligos. Inosine typically is substituted for the nucleoside at the third ("wobble") position of codons, in order to reduce the complexity of mixed oligo PCR primers/hybridization probes needed to deal with degenerate codons in the target DNA (2, 3). However, it is important to remember that I does not base pair equally well with the naturally-occurring bases, with the order of thermodynamic stability being I-C > I-A > I-G ~ I-T. Thermodynamic stability of inosine-containing duplexes is also affected by neighboring bases (4). Consequently, when using inosine as an alternative to mixed-base degeneracy at a particular oligo position, keep in mind that the above base-pairing bias may lead to differences in the oligo's priming or hybridization efficiency in the corresponding degenerate regions of the target. Because the effect could be more pronounced when dl is at the 3'-position, it may be advisable to use primers with and without I at the 3'-end, in order to maximize diversity of PCR products (5). **References**

1. Oda, Y., Uesugi, S., Ikehara, M., Kawase, Y., Ohtsuka, E. NMR studies for identification of dl:dG mismatch base-pairing structure in DNA. *Nucleic Acids Res.* (1991), **19**: 5263-5267.
2. Liu, H., Nichols, R. PCR amplification using deoxyinosine to replace entire codon and at ambiguous positions. *Biotechniques.* (1994), **16**: 24-26.
3. Ohtsuka, E., Matsuki, S., Ikehara, M., Takahashi, Y., Matsubara, K. An alternative approach to deoxynucleotides as hybridization probes by insertion of deoxyinosine at ambiguous codon positions. *J. Biol. Chem.* (1985), **260**: 2605-2608.
4. Martin, F.H., Castro, M.M., Aboul-ela, F., Tinoco, I. Base pairing involving deoxyinosine: implications for probe design. *Nucleic Acids Res.* (1985), **13**: 8927-8938.
5. Ben-Dov, E., Shapiro, O.H., Siboni, N., Kushmaro, A. Advantage of Using Inosine at the 3' Termini of 16S rRNA Gene Universal Primers for the Study of Microbial Diversity. *Appl. Environ. Microb.* (2006), **72**: 6902-6906.