

## Cresyl-violet (Nissl) Stain

### 1% Cresyl Violet Solution

5g cresyl violet (Sigma) into 500 ml distilled H<sub>2</sub>O  
Stir for 2 hrs  
Filter solution  
Can be stored at room temperature for 1 year

### Acetic acid solution

1 ml of acetic acid  
250ml of dH<sub>2</sub>O

### Procedure

1. Mount 50 µm thick sections on treated slides and dry overnight.
2. Dip the slides into 70% ethanol (EtOH) for 2-3 min (for thick sections use longer times)
3. Transfer to 95% EtOH for 2-3 min
4. 100% EtOH 3 min
5. 100% EtOH 5 min
6. Xylene 5 min
7. 100% 5 min
8. 100% 3 min
9. 95% 2-3 min
10. 70% 2-3 min
11. Dip 3x in a fresh container of dH<sub>2</sub>O
12. Immerse in 1% cresyl violet for approximately 30 sec
13. Repeat step 11
14. Destain  
Dip the sections in acetic acid solution to remove excess stain until cells are bright blue/purple but the space between cells is white. There is too much stain if it is blue.
15. Repeat step 11
16. Repeat steps 2-6
17. Coverslip with Permount (Fisher)