

PHOTOGRAPHING PCR GELS WITH FOTODYNE'S TRANSILLUMINATOR

1. The camera is set up, all you need to do is settle it over the transilluminator. It uses **Polaroid 667** (black and white) film. This is film that is available from a camera store (or orderable from them), but not readily available elsewhere. Film loading instructions are on the package. The film is around \$30/ 10 pictures.
2. Setting the exposure: Start with the setting on the camera and adjust as needed. It may need additional adjustment for each new roll of film.

Shutter Speeds

125 60 31 15 8 4 2 1
 <-----Darken/Lighten----->

Lens Openings

4.5 5.6 8 11 16 22 32
 <-----Lighten/Darken----->

3. To photograph: squeeze the trigger on the pistol grip. Pull the white tab out. A black tab with yellow arrows should appear slightly above where the white tab had been. Pull this tab straight out of the camera.
 Allow the film to develop for at least 45 seconds. Then peel the print from the developing pod. Discard the pod and print backing. Avoid getting the developing gel on your clothes or skin (rinse with water if necessary)
4. Troubleshooting:

SYMPTOMS	POSSIBLE PROBLEM/SOLUTION
Repeated white spots on prints	Dirty developer rollers. Clean roller assembly
Underdeveloped edges or corners on prints	Yellow tab pulled out at an angle. Repeat exposure; pull tabs straight out.
Numerous small white specks on prints	Yellow tab pulled too rapidly. Repeat exposure; pull tabs at moderate speed.
Very light image, or none at all. (Most common)	Incorrect exposure settings. Check film speed. Adjust camera setting.
Nearly black image or none at all.	Incorrect exposure settings. Check film speed. Adjust camera setting. Check to see that the UV hood is aligned over the transilluminator. Remove hood and rotate 180 ^o and reattach it. Try photographing again.
No white tab appears when film safety cover is removed.	White tabs trapped by film pack. Carefully open door and push tabs out. Close and latch the door with the white tab outside.
No yellow tab appears after white tab is pulled	Film is jammed. DO NOT pull another white tab. Do the following in dim light: Carefully open the door without moving the film pack. Hold the pack in position with a fingertip while gently pulling the yellow tab out. Close and latch the door with the next white tab outside.