

Make up a stock of Hoechst 33258 stain (Sigma) at 4µg/ml in PBS. Store this at 4C in the dark - we foil wrap the bottles.

The slides to be examined need to be hydrated - so dewax paraffin sections and hydrate or mildly fix and otherwise hydrate if they are frozen sections or cells on slides.

Dip the slides in the stain, this is flexible: from 1 minute to overnight seem to work OK. I typically use about 5 mins, unless I forget and go home in the meantime (which is how I know that overnight works). Then wash in gently running tap water - I usually wash for about 5-10 mins. If you overwash there won't be any stain left so then you have to go back a step. Mount in an aqueous mounting medium. View under fluorescent scope - same filter set as DAPI.

Ref:

Cunha, G. R. and K. D. Vanderslice (1984). "Identification in histological sections of species origin of cells from mouse, rat and human." Stain Technol. **59**: 7-12.