

Important Instructions

1. **Sample Quantity:** A minimum of **5 mg** of the sample must be submitted.
2. **Proper Packaging:** It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the sample is properly packaged.
3. **Data Collection:** Please bring a **new, good-quality CD** for data collection.
4. **External Slot Booking:** External slots will be booked based on the receipt of the requisition form.
5. **Courier Submission:** Samples can also be sent by courier, along with a duly filled requisition form.
6. **Sample Return:** Samples will not be returned after analysis. If you need the sample back, please collect it within one week of the result dispatch.
7. **Volatile Samples:** Volatile samples or those that degas/evaporate under laser power (~5 mW) will not be accepted. Samples should not contain radioactive isotopes.
8. **Reference Article:** A reference article showing Raman spectroscopy results on similar samples must be provided.
9. For liquid sample users must bring their own cuvette of 1 cm width.

Sample Preparation Guidelines

- **Clean Sample:** Ensure the sample is free of contaminants such as dust, oils, or fingerprints that could interfere with the Raman signal.
- **Surface Quality:** For solid samples, the surface should be smooth to avoid scattering issues.
- **Transparency:** Transparent or translucent samples may lead to background interference; ensure they are properly prepared.
- **Consistent Thickness:** Thin, uniform samples generally yield better results.
- **Sample Type:**
 - *Solid:* Should be smooth and uniform.
 - *Powder:* Should be finely ground.
 - *Liquid:* Should be clear and free from bubbles.
- **Moisture Sensitivity:** If your sample is sensitive to moisture or oxygen, prepare it in a dry or inert environment, and submit it in a sealed container.
- **Heat Sensitivity:** Raman spectroscopy uses a laser, and heat-sensitive samples may degrade or burn. Please inform the technician if this is a concern so that the laser power can be adjusted.

Additional Considerations

- **Fluorescence:** If the sample is prone to fluorescence, which can obscure the Raman signal, please inform us. Techniques to reduce fluorescence can be applied or submit multiple samples for testing under different conditions.
- **Container:** Use a non-reactive and non-interfering container or substrate to avoid additional signals in the Raman spectrum.