

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

# Masson Trichrome Staining Method

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Masson Trichrome Staining Method*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C120047.

A method that sequentially exposes tissues samples to three acid dyes and acid washes, which can differentiate between collagen and smooth muscle in those samples. The classic recipe for this histological staining method uses Weigert's Iron hematoxylin, which stains nuclei brown or black, Biebrich Scarlet, which dyes the cytoplasm, muscle and keratin pink or red, and aniline blue, which stains collagen and bone blue or green.