



ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC

Necessary Evils of the Lab

Enduring necessary evils in the lab—from pouring molten agarose to cleaning out a disgusting water bath—is what sets apart the diehard researchers from the wannabes. Often rituals of passage and universally hated, these chores are time-consuming, difficult and sometimes dangerous, but they must be done to advance research. With that in mind, we’ve taken a lighthearted look at some of the lab’s most dreaded tasks.

RANK THE NECESSARY EVILS

Come on, you know you want to! Simply number the most dreaded task as 1, second most dreaded task as 2, etc.

NECESSARY EVIL	RANK
A Racking pipette tips	
B Making 10n NaOH	
C Annotating plasmid maps	

NECESSARY EVIL	RANK
D Cleaning water bath	
E Defrosting the -20°C Freezer	
F Pouring agarose plates	

NECESSARY EVIL	RANK
G Visit from a sales rep	
H Counting cells	
I Cleaning the animal enclosure	