

# Primer3

The *Primer3* plugin is a port of the [Primer3 tool](#). It is intended to pick primers from a DNA sequence.

To use the *Primer3*, open a DNA sequence and select the *Analyze Primer3* context menu item. The dialog will appear:

The image shows a software window titled "Primer Designer" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). The window contains several tabs: "Main", "General Settings", "Internal Oligo", "Penalty Weights", "RT-PCR", "Sequence Quality", and "Result Settings". The "Main" tab is currently selected. Inside the "Main" tab, there are several input fields and controls: "Excluded regions" (a text box), "Targets" (a text box), "Product size ranges" (a list of ranges: 150-250, 100-300, 301-400, 401-500, 501-600, 601-700, 701-850, 851-1000), and "Mispriming/Repeat library" (a dropdown menu set to "NONE"). Below these are several numeric input fields with up/down arrows: "Number to return" (5), "Max 3' stability" (9.00), "Max repeat mispriming" (12.00), "Pair max repeat mispriming" (24.00), "Max template mispriming" (12.00), and "Pair max template mispriming" (24.00). There is also a "Start codon position" text box. Further down, there are three checkboxes: "Pick left primer" (checked), "Pick hybridization probe (internal oligo)" (unchecked), and "Pick right primer" (checked). Below each checkbox is a text box for the primer sequence. At the bottom of the window, there is a "Region" dropdown set to "Whole sequence", a range selector "1 - 199950", a "Help" button, and three buttons on the right: "Save settings", "Load settings", "Reset form", and "Pick primers" (which is highlighted in blue).

All available parameters are the same as in the original Primer3.

However there is one additional feature available which is not originally a part of [Primer3 tool](#). It allows user design primers for RT-PCR experiments by choosing which exons/introns to span with the primer product. This feature is described in detailed below. When you select the parameters you can save and load settings with a help of the corresponding buttons in the right corner of the dialog.

- [RT-PCR Primer Design](#)