

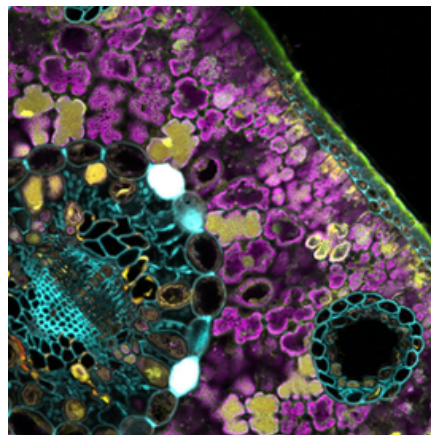
Standard Microscope Slides vs Specialist Imaging Slides

When routine prepared slides are enough, and when OptiSlides may be a better fit.



Standard slides are ideal for routine viewing, but can become limiting when users need to demonstrate, troubleshoot or check more demanding imaging workflows.

OptiSlides provide ready-to-use fluorescent samples for situations where the slide needs to do *more* than hold a sample.



REQUIREMENT	STANDARD PREPARED SLIDES	OPTISLIDES SPECIALIST IMAGING SLIDES
Routine microscopy	Usually suitable for everyday observation and standard sample viewing.	Suitable, but designed for more specialised use cases.
Fluorescence and channels	Depends on sample preparation, staining and available fluorophores.	Ready-to-use fluorescent samples with useful signal across multiple channels.
Depth and z-stacks	Often limited by sample thickness or preparation.	Available in thicker formats, including options up to 400 µm.
Troubleshooting	Variable samples can make imaging issues harder to interpret.	A more consistent prepared sample for checking settings and imaging behaviour.
Demonstration and training	May not clearly show the capability of advanced systems.	Useful for showing structure, channels and imaging depth.
Supporting information	Often limited or dependent on the sample source.	Supplied with descriptive labelling and supporting slide information.

Consider OptiSlides when you need:

- Multichannel fluorescence imaging
- Deeper imaging, z-stacks or thicker samples
- A consistent sample for setup, demonstration or troubleshooting

Stone Pine Needle OptiSlides

- Natural multicolour autofluorescence
- Visible structure across blue, green, red and far-red channels
- Useful for multichannel fluorescence and nir-relevant applications

Thick tissue OptiSlides

- Useful for imaging through depth
- Supports z-stack and optical sectioning workflows
- Available as 100, 200 and 400 µm formats

Compared with other specialist options

- Broader range than many narrower-use slide options
- Prepared fluorescent samples with supporting slide information
- Broad capability in a cost-effective specialist format

Choosing the right OptiSlides format

Thin Fibroblast	100 µm	200 µm	400 µm
Comprised of a thin layer of cells instead of thick tissue, the fibroblast slide is ideal for regular as well as high-resolution microscopy.	A useful starting point where users want a thicker prepared sample than a routine thin section while keeping imaging depth relatively accessible.	May suit more demanding optical sectioning, z-stacks or intermediate-depth imaging workflows.	Useful where users want to challenge or demonstrate deeper imaging capability on suitable advanced systems.

Use as practical guidance, not a fixed rule.

The best choice depends on microscope setup, objective, channels and imaging depth.

Speak to VH Bio about the most suitable OptiSlides format for your microscopy application.

Contact us to discuss suitability, current pricing and availability.

Learn more at: www.vhbio.com/optislides-comparison

