



# qBasePlus: import file guidelines

## *samples & targets*



## General information

New samples and targets can be added to an experiment by creating them one by one, or by importing them as a list of samples or targets. The latter is especially useful for larger experiments and in situations where sample or target names are already available in a database or spreadsheet.

Import file formats should be either a tab delimited text file (.txt), a comma or semicolon separated value file (.csv) or a Microsoft Excel file (.xls). Alternative file formats such as Microsoft Excel 2007 (.xlsx) and OpenOffice.org Calc (.ods) are not supported.

In qBasePlus, there are restrictions on sample and target names. Only the following characters are allowed: all alphanumerical characters (0-9, a-z, A-Z), space, \_, -, \$, #, :, ^, . and the greek letter mu ( $\mu$ ). **Illegal characters** such as brackets and slashes should be removed or replaced.

## Availability

The import of sample or target lists is available in qBasePlus version 1.2 (or higher) for users with a full (or demo) license. This functionality is not implemented in qBasePlus versions 1.0 and 1.1, and is not accessible for users without a license.

## Creating sample files

Sample files contain one data table starting with a header row. This header row must match the following items exactly and in the same order (from column A to C):

- name
- type
- description

Start filling in your samples at the second line and do not leave empty lines prior to the end of your list. The second column may contain information about the sample type. The following types are recognized:

- UNKNOWN
- STANDARD
- POSITIVE\_CONTROL
- MINUS\_RT
- NO\_AMPLIFICATION
- NO\_TEMPLATE

The third column may contain an optional description of the sample.



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### Creating target files

Target files contain one data table starting with a header row. This header row must match the following items exactly and in the same order (from column A to B):

- name
- type

Start filling in your samples at the second line and do not leave empty lines prior to the end of your list. The second column may contain information about the target type. The following types are recognized:

- TOI
- REF

TOI should be used for targets of interest whereas REF is intended for reference targets that will be used for normalisation.