

TABLE 7.2. Plasmid functions

Genetic Function of Plasmid	Gene Functions	Examples
Resistance	Antibiotic resistance	Rbk plasmid of <i>Escherichia coli</i> and other bacteria
Fertility	Conjugation and DNA transfer	F plasmid of <i>E. coli</i>
Killer	Synthesis of toxins that kill other bacteria	Col plasmids of <i>E. coli</i> , for colicin production
Degradative	Enzymes for metabolism of unusual molecules	TOL plasmid of <i>Pseudomonas putida</i> , for toluene metabolism
Virulence	Pathogenicity	Ti plasmid of <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i> , conferring the ability to cause crown gall disease on dicotyledonous plants