



TRUSTYPEP

MEMBER EDITION • OCTOBER 2026

THE RESEARCH BUYER'S GUIDE

How to vet a seller, read a lab report, spot bad actors,
and store and reconstitute research peptides properly.

- Reading a lab report, line by line
- How bad actors fake proof
- Storage and reconstitution, with the math
- A printable pre-order checklist and lab log

START HERE

Buy with proof, not promises.

Most people get burned in this market the same way: a convincing website, a lab report nobody checked, and a payment they could not get back. This guide is the playbook we use to grade over a hundred US sellers, written so you can run it yourself in a few minutes.

THE FIVE RULES

- 01 No report, no order.**
If a seller won't show a third-party lab report for the batch you are buying, keep looking.
- 02 The lot on the vial must match the report.**
A report for a different batch proves nothing about yours.
- 03 Purity is not quantity.**
A 99% pure vial can still hold less peptide than the label says. Look for net content.
- 04 Pay in a way you can recover from.**
Know the seller's refund policy before you pay, whatever method you use.
- 05 Start with one vial.**
Check the delivery against the report before you buy in bulk.

INSIDE

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| 01 | Research peptides 101 | What you are buying, what a label should show, the words you will see |
| 02 | Choosing a seller | What good looks like, and how to compare sellers fairly |
| 03 | Reading a lab report | A report, line by line, and how to verify one |
| 04 | How bad actors operate | Fake proof, scam patterns and rigged reviews |
| 05 | Before you order | A printable checklist |
| 06 | When it arrives | Inspecting a delivery and what to do if something is wrong |
| 07 | Storage | Keeping lyophilized and reconstituted material stable |
| 08 | Reconstitution | Supplies, clean technique and the concentration math |
| 09 | Your lab log | A record template you can print |
| 10 | About TrustyPep | How we grade, and what members get |

Everything here is about evaluating sellers and handling research materials in a laboratory. Nothing in this guide is medical advice, and it contains no dosing information for people or animals.

01

RESEARCH PEPTIDES 101

What you are actually buying

Short chains of amino acids, made by synthesis and sold as a freeze-dried powder for laboratory research.

Most research peptides ship as a **lyophilized** (freeze-dried) cake or powder in a sealed glass vial. In that form they are fairly stable. Once mixed with a liquid they are far more fragile, which is why storage and reconstitution get their own sections.

"Research use only" (RUO) means the product is sold for laboratory research and is not approved as a medicine. Legitimate sellers say so plainly and avoid dosing charts and health claims. That matters to you as a buyer: sellers that market to people draw regulatory warning letters and can disappear overnight, orders and all.

What a proper vial label shows

ON THE LABEL	WHY IT MATTERS
Compound name	Should match the product page and the lab report exactly.
Amount (mg)	The labeled quantity. The report's net content should be close to it.
Lot or batch number	The link between your vial and its lab report. The single most important line.
Manufacture or fill date	Tells you how fresh it is and whether the report could be for this batch.
Storage instructions	Usually "store at -20 °C" or "refrigerate". Missing storage info is a sloppy sign.
Research-use statement	For example "For research use only. Not for human consumption."

Words you will see

TERM	PLAIN MEANING
COA	Certificate of analysis. A lab's record of what it found in a sample.
Third-party lab	A testing lab that is not owned by the seller. In-house testing is not independent.
HPLC	High-performance liquid chromatography. Measures purity as a percentage.
Mass spec (MS, LC-MS)	Weighs the molecule to confirm identity: is it the compound on the label?
Net content	How many mg of actual peptide are in the vial, separate from salts and water.
Endotoxin (LAL)	Bacterial toxins left from production, reported in EU/mg. Lower is better.
Sterility	Whether live microbes are present. Usually tested by a USP 71 method.
Blind test	A sample bought anonymously and tested by someone the seller does not control.

02

CHOOSING A SELLER

What good looks like

Price is the last thing to compare. Proof, policies and whether you can reach a real business come first.

AREA	A GOOD SIGN	A WARNING SIGN
Lab reports	Third-party reports for every batch, visible before you buy, with lot numbers.	One old report reused for everything, or "available on request".
Testing scope	Identity, purity and net content, plus endotoxin and sterility.	Purity only, presented as "fully tested".
Verification	Reports you can confirm on the lab's own website.	Screenshots or PDFs with no way to verify them.
Refunds	A written policy covering wrong, failed or damaged products.	No policy, or "all sales final".
Shipping	Stated handling time, tracking, and a reship policy for lost orders.	Vague timelines and no tracking.
Business	A legal company name, an address and a support channel that answers.	Only a contact form, or orders taken by direct message.
Marketing	Research language. No dosing, no health claims.	Dosing charts, "for weight loss", before and after photos.

About payment

A card payment can be disputed with your bank if a product never arrives or is not what was described. Zelle, bank transfers and crypto cannot be reversed by your bank, so with those the seller's written refund policy is what protects you. Many trusted sellers give a discount for those methods, and card processors in this industry often drop sellers, so backup options are normal. The rule is simple: read the refund policy before you pay, whatever method you choose.

SHORTCUT

Every report card on trustypep.com already checks these areas with links to the seller's own pages, and shows the deals and payment discounts each seller offers. Grades never depend on price or payment discounts.

Comparing price fairly

Compare price per mg of the same compound, then ask what the price buys: a seller charging a little more with batch reports, endotoxin testing and a refund policy is often the better value. A price far below everyone else on an expensive compound is a question, not a deal. Standing quantity deals (buy 2 get 1, tiered pricing) are worth factoring in once you trust the seller.

03

READING A LAB REPORT

A report, line by line

A good certificate of analysis answers five questions. Here is where to find each answer.

EXAMPLE LAYOUT • NOT A REAL REPORT

Example Analytical Laboratory

Certificate of Analysis Report No. EX-24-08817

CLIENT	Example Seller LLC
SAMPLE	Compound X, 10 mg vial
LOT / BATCH	CX10-2409B
RECEIVED	Sep 18
TESTED	Sep 23

Identity (LC-MS)	Matches, 1419.4 Da
Purity (HPLC, 214 nm)	99.2%
Content (net)	10.4 mg
Endotoxin (LAL)	< 0.5 EU/mg
Sterility (USP 71)	No growth

VERIFY
CODE

Verify at the lab's own website
Key: 7F3K-92QD Signed: J. Analyst

1 A real, named lab

Look the lab up. It should have its own website and a way to verify reports.

2 The lot number

Must match the lot printed on your vial. No lot, no proof.

3 Identity and purity

Mass spec confirms what it is. HPLC shows how clean it is. You want both.

4 Content and safety

Net mg in the vial, plus endotoxin and sterility. Purity alone skips these.

5 A way to verify

A code, key or QR you can check on the lab's site, not the seller's.

What each test proves

TEST	PROVES	GOOD RESULT LOOKS LIKE
Identity (MS)	The vial holds the compound on the label.	Observed mass matches the expected mass, usually within about 1 Da.
Purity (HPLC)	How much of the material is the target peptide versus other compounds.	98% or higher. We hold sellers to 99%.
Net content	How many mg of peptide are really in the vial.	Within about 10% of the labeled amount.
Endotoxin (LAL)	Bacterial toxins left over from production.	A low number with the method and limit stated, not just "pass".
Sterility	Whether live microbes are present.	No growth, with the method (usually USP 71) and dates shown.
Heavy metals	Lead, arsenic, mercury and cadmium.	Each metal reported under its limit (USP 232/233 methods).

Purity is not quantity

Purity tells you how clean the peptide is. It does not tell you how much is in the vial. Peptides are sold as salts and hold some water, so the peptide itself is commonly 70 to 90% of the powder's weight. A seller can truthfully post "99% pure" for a vial that holds 7 mg of peptide. That is why net content testing matters.

10 MG OF POWDER (GROSS WEIGHT)

SALTS AND WATER



Illustration. Purity says how clean the peptide is. Net content says how much of it is in the vial.

Check the mass yourself

Identity results list an observed mass. Compare it to the compound's known molecular weight from a public chemistry database such as PubChem. A few common reference values:

COMPOUND	APPROX. MOLECULAR WEIGHT
BPC-157	1,419.5 Da
Ipamorelin	711.9 Da
Semaglutide	4,113.6 Da
Tirzepatide	4,813.5 Da

Verify a report in five steps

01 Find the lab

Search the lab name yourself. It should have a real website, an address and a way to verify reports.

02 Use the verification key

Enter the report number, key or QR on the lab's site, never through a link the seller provides.

03 Compare the details

Compound, amount, lot, client and dates should match what the seller posted, exactly.

04 Match your vial

The lot printed on the vial you received should match the report's lot.

05 Check the date

Testing should fall after the batch was made and not years before you ordered.

IF YOU CANNOT VERIFY IT

Ask the seller for the report number and the lab's verification method. A legitimate seller answers quickly. Silence, excuses or a new screenshot are your answer.

04

HOW BAD ACTORS OPERATE

The tricks we see most

Most fake proof is not forged from scratch. It is real paperwork used in misleading ways.

Fake or misleading lab reports

PATTERN	WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE	HOW TO CATCH IT
The recycled report	One report shown for every batch, sometimes for years.	Same report number and date on every product. Ask for the report for your lot.
The borrowed report	Another company's report with the name cropped or edited.	Verify on the lab's site. The client name will not match.
The generic report	No lot number, or "batch: N/A".	A report without a lot cannot be tied to anything you receive.
The wrong size	A 5 mg report posted for a 10 mg vial, or a different compound.	Read the sample line, not just the headline numbers.
The edited numbers	Results changed in an image editor.	Odd fonts, blurred areas, misaligned text. The lab's copy will differ.
The unverifiable lab	A lab name with no website, or "tested in-house".	If you cannot find and verify the lab, treat it as no report.
Purity dressed up	Purity only, sold as "fully tested".	Look for identity, content, endotoxin and sterility too.
The time traveler	A testing date before the batch could exist.	Compare report dates with the fill date on your vial.

Seller patterns that end badly

PATTERN	WHY IT IS A RISK
Prices far below everyone else	Real synthesis and testing cost money. Deep, permanent discounts usually mean something was skipped.
Crypto or Zelle only, no refund policy	Nothing protects you if the product is wrong or never ships.
Constant urgency	Countdown timers, "last 3 vials" and long pre-sales push you to skip the checks.
Orders by direct message only	No website, business name or policies. Common in exit scams.
No company behind it	No legal name, address or reachable support means no one to hold to account.
Dosing and health claims	Breaks the research-use rules and draws regulatory action. Sellers like this vanish.

PATTERN	WHY IT IS A RISK
The rebrand cycle	Same products and photos under a new name after complaints. Check how old the domain is.
Overseas stock sold as US	Long transit, customs forms and foreign return addresses on a "US" store.
The giant final sale	A huge sitewide sale paid in crypto, right before the site goes dark.

Reviews and rankings you cannot trust

Review sites in this space are mostly unregulated. Three problems show up again and again:

- **Fake reviews.** Waves of five-star reviews in similar wording, from accounts with one review.
- **Competitor bashing.** Sudden one-star attacks on a rival, often from new accounts.
- **Pay-to-rank lists.** "Top 10" pages where the order is set by commission or paid placement, with no published method.

How to tell the difference: real reviews show proof (a photo of the vial with its lot number), mention specifics and come from accounts with history. Honest rankings publish their method, link their sources and disclose who pays them.

COMMUNICATION RED FLAGS

Refusing to share reports, or only sending them privately.

Pressure to pay before questions are answered.

Asking you to move the conversation to an encrypted app to complete the order.

Different company names on the website, the invoice and the payment.

If you have been burned

01 Document everything

Order confirmation, payment proof, photos of the package, vial and label, and all messages.

02 Contact the seller in writing

Ask for a refund or replacement under their posted policy. Keep it factual.

03 Use your payment protections

For card payments, open a dispute with your bank. For PayPal, use its resolution center.

04 Report it

File with the FTC at reportfraud.ftc.gov and your state attorney general.

05 Warn others with facts

Share what happened with your evidence. You can also report it to us from any seller's page.

05

BEFORE YOU ORDER

The pre-order checklist

Print this page. If you are answering "no" to several, keep looking.

PROOF

- ☐ A third-party lab report is visible before I buy, with no account needed.
- ☐ The report names a real lab I could find on my own.
- ☐ I verified at least one report on the lab's own website.
- ☐ There is a report for this batch, with a lot number.
- ☐ Testing covers more than purity: identity, net content, endotoxin, sterility.
- ☐ The report is recent, from the last few months.

POLICIES

- ☐ There is a written refund policy covering wrong, failed or damaged products.
- ☐ They reship lost or seized orders, in writing.
- ☐ I know how my payment method is protected, and I read the refund terms first.
- ☐ Handling time, tracking and shipping rates are stated.

THE BUSINESS

- ☐ There is a legal company name, an address and a way to reach a person.
- ☐ The site sticks to research language: no dosing, no health claims.
- ☐ The seller ships from inside the US.
- ☐ The price makes sense next to other sellers for the same compound and size.

SCORE

13 or more yes answers: a reasonable place to start with one vial. 9 to 12: ask questions first. Under 9: keep looking.

06

WHEN IT ARRIVES

Inspect before you store

Five minutes on delivery day saves arguments later. Take photos as you go.

01 Check the package

Note the temperature (cold packs still cold?), damage and the shipping label. Photograph the box before opening.

02 Check every vial

Seals and caps intact, no cracks, no leaks. The powder should look like a dry cake or powder, not wet, sticky or discolored.

03 Match the label to the report

Compound, amount and lot number on the vial should match the lab report you were shown.

04 Photograph the labels

Clear photos of each label with the lot number readable. This is your evidence if anything is wrong.

05 Store it right away

Into the freezer or fridge as the label says. See section 07.

CONTACT THE SELLER THE SAME DAY IF

The lot on the vial does not match any report the seller posted.

A vial is cracked, leaking, unsealed or missing its label.

The powder looks wet, clumped, yellowed or melted.

You received a different compound or size than you ordered.

Independent testing

The strongest check is your own. Several analytical labs accept samples from the public, and buyers often pool money to test a vial from a seller they use. Send a sealed, unopened vial with its lot number recorded. Good sellers welcome this and many refund or replace a product that fails an outside test.

07

STORAGE

Keep it stable

Heat, light, moisture and repeated freeze-thaw cycles break peptides down. Plan storage before the order arrives.

SITUATION	TYPICAL PRACTICE
Lyophilized, long term	Freezer, around -20 °C, sealed, dark. Stable for months or longer for most compounds.
Lyophilized, short term	Refrigerator, 2 to 8 °C, for weeks. Keep it away from the door, where temperatures swing.
Before opening a cold vial	Let it reach room temperature first so moisture does not condense inside.
Reconstituted	Refrigerator, 2 to 8 °C, protected from light. Use within the time the documentation gives, often a few weeks.
Freezing a solution	Avoid repeated freeze-thaw. If you must freeze, split into single-use portions (aliquots) first.
Light	Keep vials in their box or wrapped in foil. Some compounds degrade quickly in light.
Humidity	Store powders sealed, ideally with a desiccant pack. Moisture shortens shelf life.

WATCH OUT FOR

Frost-free freezers warm up on a cycle. A small insulated box inside the freezer helps.
 Leaving vials on the counter for hours, or in a car in summer.
 Mailing or travelling without cold packs.

Always follow the storage instructions in the seller's or manufacturer's documentation. They can differ by compound.

08

RECONSTITUTION

Mixing powder into solution

Reconstitution means dissolving the powder in a liquid (the diluent) so it can be measured accurately. Clean technique and correct math matter more than anything else.

Supplies

ITEM	WHY
The right diluent	Usually bacteriostatic water. See the table below.
70% isopropyl alcohol swabs	To clean vial stoppers before every puncture.
Sterile syringes or a calibrated pipette	To measure the diluent accurately. Use a new sterile one each time.
Nitrile gloves and a clean surface	Reduces contamination.
Labels and a pen	Every mixed vial gets a label. See the lab log in section 09.

Choosing a diluent

DILUENT	NOTES
Bacteriostatic water	Sterile water with 0.9% benzyl alcohol. The usual choice for a vial that will be accessed more than once; multi-dose vials are commonly discarded 28 days after first use.
Sterile water	No preservative. Best for a vial used once, then discarded.
Dilute acetic acid (about 0.6%)	Only when the compound's documentation calls for it. Some peptides dissolve poorly in water.
Sodium chloride 0.9%	Only when documentation specifies it. Some compounds are less stable in saline.

Clean technique, step by step

01 Wash and set up

Wash your hands, put on gloves and lay supplies out on a clean surface.

02 Bring vials to room temperature

Prevents condensation and helps the powder dissolve.

03 Wipe both stoppers

Swab the peptide vial and the diluent vial with 70% alcohol and let them air dry.

04 Measure the diluent

Draw the exact volume you planned with a new sterile syringe or pipette.

05 Add it slowly, down the glass

Let the liquid run down the inside wall of the vial. Do not spray it onto the powder.

06 Let it dissolve

Gently swirl or roll the vial. Never shake: shaking can damage the peptide and causes foam.

07 Check it

The solution should be clear. A little patience helps; some compounds take a few minutes.

08 Label it

Compound, concentration, date mixed, diluent and lot number. Then refrigerate.

Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	WHAT TO DO
Powder won't dissolve	Give it time at room temperature and keep swirling gently. Check the documentation; some compounds need a dilute acid.
Foam on top	It was shaken or the liquid was sprayed in. Let it settle. Next time run the diluent down the glass.
Cloudy or has particles	Do not use it. Photograph it, record the lot and contact the seller.
Hard to add liquid (vacuum)	Normal for sealed vials. Add the diluent slowly; the vial pulls it in.
Crystals after refrigeration	Let it warm to room temperature and swirl. If they don't dissolve, don't use it.

The concentration math

Concentration tells you how much peptide is in each unit of liquid. It is the only number you need to measure accurately.

FORMULA

Concentration (mg per mL) = peptide in the vial (mg) / diluent added (mL)

Worked example: 10 mg vial + 2 mL diluent = 5 mg per mL. Since 1 mg = 1,000 mcg, that is 5,000 mcg per mL, or 500 mcg in every 0.1 mL.

Concentration for common vial sizes

Peptide in vial	1 mL	2 mL	3 mL	5 mL
5 mg	5 mg/mL	2.5 mg/mL	1.67 mg/mL	1 mg/mL
10 mg	10 mg/mL	5 mg/mL	3.33 mg/mL	2 mg/mL
20 mg	20 mg/mL	10 mg/mL	6.67 mg/mL	4 mg/mL
50 mg	50 mg/mL	25 mg/mL	16.67 mg/mL	10 mg/mL

Peptide in every 0.1 mL

Peptide in vial	1 mL	2 mL	3 mL	5 mL
5 mg	500 mcg	250 mcg	167 mcg	100 mcg
10 mg	1,000 mcg	500 mcg	333 mcg	200 mcg
20 mg	2,000 mcg	1,000 mcg	667 mcg	400 mcg
50 mg	5,000 mcg	2,500 mcg	1,667 mcg	1,000 mcg

THE MATH ASSUMES THE LABEL IS RIGHT

If a "10 mg" vial actually holds 7 mg of peptide, every concentration you calculate is 30% too high. This is why net content testing matters, and why you want a report for your lot.

09

YOUR LAB LOG

Record every vial

If something goes wrong, records are what get you a refund. Print this page or copy the columns into a spreadsheet.

[illegible]

10

ABOUT TRUSTYPEP

How we grade

Independent report cards for US research peptide sellers. Sellers cannot pay for a listing, a grade or a better spot.

AREA	WHAT IT COVERS
Quality, 65 points	Third-party lab reports, how deep the testing goes, results against our standard (99% purity, content within 10%), independent blind tests and whether reports can be verified.
Trust, 20 points	Regulatory record, buyer protection (cards, refunds, reship), testing policy and business transparency.
Experience, 15 points	Shipping, support, ways to pay, the website and photo-verified buyer ratings.

Anything a seller does not show scores zero, and every finding links to the page we read so you can check it yourself. Price, deals and payment discounts are shown but never change a grade. Rankings change as sellers change, so check a seller's report card before you order.

As a member

- **The full ranking** of every US seller we grade, with side-by-side compare.
- **Weekly updates** on grade changes and the sellers we flag.
- **Seller alerts:** follow any seller and get an email when its grade moves.
- **An invite to the TrustyPep forum.** It is invite-only and opens to members in November.

DISCLOSURE

The person who builds and maintains TrustyPep also operates Peptide Maxxing, a seller listed on the site. It is graded by the same published rules and code as every other seller, using only public evidence, and gets no extra points or placement.

Spotted something wrong or out of date? Report it from any seller's page on trustypep.com and a person will review it. © 2026 TrustyPep.

This guide is for information about evaluating sellers and handling research materials in a laboratory. The products discussed are labeled for research use only and are not for human consumption. Nothing here is medical advice. Follow all laws that apply where you are and the documentation that comes with any research material.