

Protect Your Instrument Investment

FOLLOW THESE **7** SIMPLE MAINTENANCE STEPS

1 PRE-SOAK

- Do not let blood, mucus or other bio fluids dry on your instruments after use
- Use an enzymatic solution with a neutral pH as pre-soak or holding solution
- Do not use a disinfectant to pre-soak instruments
- Do not pre-soak for long periods of time (no overnight or weekend pre-soaking)



2 RINSE

- Rinse your instruments under warm water for 30 seconds
- Tap water will spot instruments so water should be distilled or demineralized

3 CLEAN

- Instruments need to be completely clean in order to ensure proper sterilization
- Wear proper personal protective equipment when cleaning (goggles, face shield, mask, gloves & apron)
- Separate dissimilar materials (no mixed metals) before cleaning

- Apply stain remover as needed
- Place instruments in ultrasonic cleaner

- Automatic washers and manual cleaning are also accepted practice, but ultrasonic cleaning is preferable



4 RINSE & DRY

- Rinse instruments with distilled or demineralized water
- Drying is a very important step that is often overlooked
- Dry with surgical towels not treated with bleach or harmful chemicals

5 LUBRICATE

- Lubrication is essential to all instrument areas where there is metal-to-metal contact including hinges, box locks, screws and blades



- Lubrication prevents spotting, staining, corrosion and sticking/tightness

- Only dental lubricant should be used (no industrial lubricant)

- Lubricant should be water-soluble and non-silicone based

- Lubricate at least weekly, but more often is preferred
- 30-second dip (with no rinsing) or spraying (with no rinsing) are both acceptable methods of lubrication



6 PACKAGE & WRAP

- Separate dissimilar materials (no mixed metals) before wrapping
- Keep all instruments in open/unlocked position (hinges & box locks can fracture during heat expansion if closed)

- Wrap instruments in bags, cassettes, surgical towels or containers with an indicator inside



7 STERILIZE

- Autoclaving is the only acceptable method for sterilizing instruments

- Never use chemical/cold sterilization and never use dry heat



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