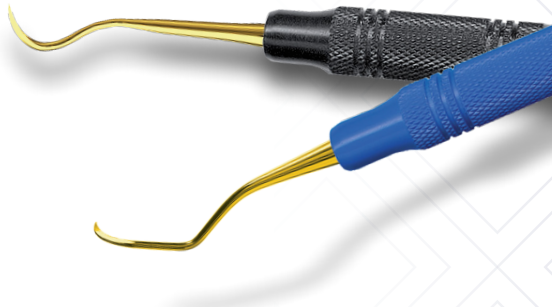
American Eagle INSTRUMENTS®

Instrument Care Instructions



Just like fine clothing or jewelry, your instruments require special care.

Although American Eagle's stainless steel and XP instruments have outstanding built-in corrosion resistance, incompatibilities do exist with specific chemicals which should be avoided.

COMPATIBLE & INCOMPATIBLE CHEMICALS

Instruments should be in contact with the following chemicals for **no more than two hours,** and then thouroughly rinsed and dried immediately after:

- Aluminum chloride
- Barium chloride
- Mercury dichloride
- Calcium chloride
- Carbolic acid
- Citric acid, cresol
- Mercury chloride
- Mercury salts
- Phenol
- Permanganic acid potash
- Potassium thicyanate
- Ferrous chloride
- Stanniferous chloride
- Tartaric acid

The following chemicals should be avoided completely:

- Aqua Regia
- Iron chloride
- Sulphuric acid
- Hydrochloric acid
- Iodine

START WITH QUALITY

Every instrument is subject to comprehensive quality controls during all phases of production to guarantee American Eagle's uncompromising quality standards. American Eagle uses only high-grade surgical stainless steel which contains various percentages of carbon and chrome. A specially designed hardening process gives our instruments a unique balance of flexibility and optimal durability.

The majority of American Eagle instruments are handcrafted, meaning they're shaped, ground and polished by hand. Tips are prepared individually by highly skilled craftspeople, and each instrument is held to extensive quality controls during each stage of fabrication.

With the cooperation and support of various universities and major dental institutions worldwide, American Eagle is constantly expanding its manufacturing horizons by combining the most recent scientific innovations with state-of-the-art technology.

LONGER LIFE WITH PROPER USE

Each American Eagle instrument is designed to meet a specific functional criteria, and incorrect handling or misuse can reduce the service life of these precision instruments. Intended use is thus an integral part of proper instrument care, and most damage can be minimized with proper use and routine maintenance.

For example, American Eagle curettes are made for fine sub-gingival scaling and root planing and should not be used to trim margins or remove overhangs. When used as intended, their precision and sharpness truly shine – especially with instruments made using XP2 Technology, which eliminates the need for excessive force and allows for a lighter, more tactile grasp. Your hands will thank you!

CORRECT DISINFECTION, CARE AND STERILIZATION

Sterilization cannot be a substitute for cleaning! An instrument exposed to high temperatures before being properly cleaned and rinsed can cause permanent staining on the surface.

Prior to manual cleaning, instruments should be disinfected using phenol-free solutions.

We generally recommend processing instruments in cassettes — ideally in closed systems such as the American Eagle Galaxie Cassettes. These systems prevent contact between the sharp cutting edges of other instruments, protecting them from premature wear while also safeguarding users from potential injuries during reprocessing and transport. Instruments should be cleaned in a noncorrosive, neutral cleaning agent with minimal foaming between the sharp cutting edges, protecting them from premature wear, while also safeguarding users from potential injuries during reprocessing and transport.

Stubborn impurities and debris should be removed with a soft brush — never with steel wool, drill brushes or other abrasive items. The instrument should be rinsed in distilled water, not tap water. Some dental surgeries incorporate ultrasonic units or thermodisinfectors within their cleaning systems, where extreme care is also required to ensure that the cleaning agents and chemicals being used do not damage the instrument subsurface.

DO'S AND DON'TS

Sterilization & Equipment: Regardless of your method, always inspect your sterilization equipment for remaining debris and organic or mineral deposits. These can be transferred to instruments and potentially cause corrosion.

Whether you use autoclave or germicidal solvents, always follow the manufacturer's instructions precisely regarding specific recommendations for temperatures and times.

Batching: Do not batch stainless steel, aluminum, brass or copper instruments together during the cleaning or sterilization processes. Batching these instruments together can create potential electrolysis reactions between the dissimilar metals, which can cause etching and corrosion on the instrument surfaces. All American Eagle Instruments, including XP2, may be processed together with other stainless-steel instruments.

Water & Solvents: Use only distilled or de-mineralized water when caring for dental instruments. High mineral levels in the water, or water that is too soft, can cause permanent stains on the instrument surface.

Drying: Carefully drying instruments is extremely important during the cleaning and sterilizing process. Any remaining water or condensation can cause potential rust or corrosion on the instrument surface and into the substrate. This is particularly important with pouch sterilization or when the autoclave has been opened prematurely. It is advisable to remove any remaining moisture with a sterile cloth.

Identification: "Slip-on" ID rings are recommended for custom instrument identification. Do not engrave the instrument surface, as engraving can compromise the polished surface and lead to oxidation and/or corrosion.

With proper use and care, you can extend the longevity and performance of all your professional dental instruments.