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Architectural
Conservation
Laboratory

Cleaning & Disinfecting

Zeiss Stemi 305
Stereo Microscopes

Direct contact with the eyepieces can be a potential way of passing on bacteria and viral infections. Disinfect the microscope before and after your use to lower the risk of spreading infection.



One of the most significant dangers when cleaning and disinfecting optical surfaces is accidentally dissolving the cements in the lens assembly. The glass metal junctures must be sealed as best as possible to prevent any penetration of solvents. Optical components should never be immersed in any organic solvent, and cleaning cloths should only be moistened, never saturated, with a cleaning solution.

The frame

Wear nitrile gloves and disconnect the instrument from the power supply before cleaning. To remove stains:

1. Wipe the frame with a piece of cloth soaked in a small amount of neutral detergent.
2. Wipe the frame clean with a piece of cloth soaked in lukewarm water. Make sure not to touch the lens.
3. Use 70% ethanol/isopropanol to disinfect the eyepiece shades, zoom button, focusing drive, illuminator switch for transmitted light, and illuminator switch for reflected light (Figure 1).
4. Discard gloves and wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds.

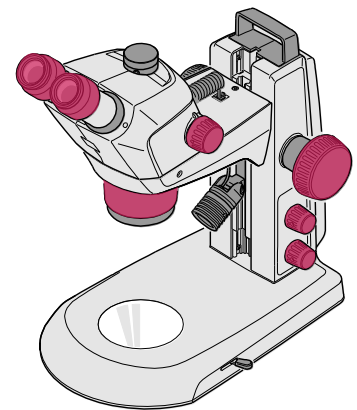


Figure 1. Parts of the Zeiss Stemi 305 Stereomicroscopes to disinfect.

The lens

1. Using a blowout bulb, remove any dirt and dust stuck in the surface of the lens.
2. Fold a piece of lens paper or Kimtech Kimwipe® around your finger to create a point. For smaller optics, fold the tissue into a triangle to create a fine point.
3. Wet the tip of the lens paper or Kimwipe® with a small amount of 70% ethanol.
4. Wipe the lens surface in a circular motion from the center to the periphery (Figure 2).
5. Inspect the lens for any remaining dust or residue. If reflections are uneven, this indicates that dust specks and dirt remains. Repeat the cleaning process (steps 1-5) until the lens is free of contaminants.

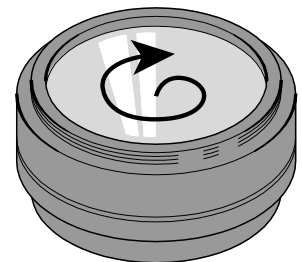


Figure 2. Wipe from the center to the periphery in a circular motion.