

Bostwick Consistometer, Stainless Steel

Operating Manual

Laboratory Equipment

Intended use

Measures the consistency and flow of semi-solid and viscous samples such as sauces, purees, condiments and syrups. The sample is released from a reservoir by a spring-loaded gate and the distance it flows along a graduated trough in a set time is read.

Intended users

Food quality-control, pharmaceutical and R&D laboratory staff.

Read this manual completely before first use and keep it with the product. This document provides general operating, care and safety guidance. Where the product is supplied with manufacturer labeling or instructions, those take precedence. For questions, a replacement copy, or a digital copy of this manual, email sales@scimedstore.com.

1. Safety

Safety warnings and cautions

- Keep fingers clear of the gate when it is released; the spring-loaded gate opens instantly.
- Wear appropriate gloves and eye protection when handling hot or irritating samples.
- Use the instrument on a stable, level bench.
- Clean spills promptly to avoid slipping hazards.
- Handle edges of the stainless steel body with care.

2. Specifications

Material	Food-grade stainless steel
Graduations	Engraved at 0.5 cm intervals
Standard sample volume	75 ml
Trough length	Varies by variant: 24 cm / 30 cm / 50 cm
Dimensions (24 cm variant)	418 mm long x 240 mm trough length x 88 mm wide x 104 mm high
Gate	Spring-loaded release

3. Unpacking and setup

- 1 Place the consistometer on a level, vibration-free bench.
- 2 Level the instrument so the trough is horizontal.
- 3 Make sure the trough and reservoir are clean and dry.
- 4 Close and latch the gate.
- 5 Bring the sample to the temperature specified in your test method.

4. Operation

Running a test

- 1 Mix the sample so it is uniform and free of air bubbles.
- 2 Fill the reservoir behind the gate with 75 ml of sample and level the surface.
- 3 Have a timer ready.
- 4 Release the gate with the lever and start the timer at the same moment.
- 5 At the time set by your test method (typically 30 seconds per listing), read the farthest point the sample has reached on the graduated scale.
- 6 Record the reading in centimeters as the Bostwick value, together with sample temperature and time.

5. Cleaning and disinfection

- Clean immediately after each test so samples do not dry on the trough.

- Wash with warm water and mild detergent; use a soft cloth or brush.
- Rinse and dry fully before the next test.
- Do not use abrasive pads that may scratch the graduations.

6. Maintenance and storage

- Store clean and dry with the gate closed.
- Check that the gate spring and lever move freely and close tightly.
- Check the instrument is level before each series of tests.
- Protect the engraved scale from scratches.

7. Troubleshooting

Problem	Likely cause	What to do
Sample leaks under the gate	Gate not fully closed or seal area dirty	Clean the gate area and latch fully before filling
Readings vary between tests	Temperature differences or instrument not level	Control sample temperature and re-level the instrument
Flow stops unevenly	Sample not uniform or contains air	Mix and de-aerate the sample before testing
Gate does not release cleanly	Dried residue on the gate or lever	Clean the gate mechanism thoroughly

8. Disposal

- Dispose of test samples according to your laboratory's waste procedures.
- The stainless steel instrument can be recycled as metal at end of life.

9. Warranty and support

Products are covered by SciMed's standard warranty (12 months from purchase unless a different period is stated on your invoice). Warranty terms: scimedstore.com/pages/warranty.

Support, spare parts and additional copies of this manual: sales@scimedstore.com. Please include your order number and a photo of the product or issue.

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