

# Disposable Blade Holder for Rotary Microtome

## Instructions for Use

Laboratory Equipment Accessory

### Intended use

Blade holder (knife holder) that clamps standard disposable microtome blades on a rotary microtome for sectioning paraffin-embedded tissue and similar specimens.

### Intended users

Trained histology and pathology laboratory personnel and supervised students.

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](mailto:sales@scimedstore.com).

## 1. Safety

### Safety warnings and cautions

- Microtome blades are extremely sharp. Handle blades only by their non-cutting edges, or with forceps or a blade dispenser.
- Always lock the microtome handwheel before installing, removing or adjusting the blade or holder.
- Engage the blade guard whenever you are not actively sectioning.
- Never leave a blade in the holder when the microtome is not in use.
- Dispose of used blades immediately in a sharps container.
- Treat tissue specimens as potentially infectious and follow your laboratory's biosafety procedures.
- Wear cut-resistant gloves when cleaning the holder.

## 2. Package contents

- Disposable blade holder x 1
- User instruction card

Check contents on receipt. Report missing or damaged items to [sales@scimedstore.com](mailto:sales@scimedstore.com) within 48 hours of delivery.

## 3. Specifications

|                            |                                                                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type                       | Disposable blade holder for rotary microtome                                       |
| Compatible blades          | Standard disposable microtome blades (blades not included)                         |
| Mount                      | Universal-mount rotary microtomes; confirm fit with your microtome before ordering |
| Clearance (set-back) angle | Adjustable, typically 4-8°                                                         |
| Blade clamp                | Quick-release clamp                                                                |
| Sterilization              | Autoclavable (per listing)                                                         |

## 4. Unpacking and setup

- 1 Lock the microtome handwheel.
- 2 Remove any existing blade and blade holder per the microtome instructions.
- 3 Clean the holder mounting surface on the microtome.
- 4 Mount the blade holder on the microtome base and tighten the clamping lever or screw firmly.
- 5 Set the clearance angle per your laboratory method.
- 6 Insert a new disposable blade into the clamp from the side, handling it by the non-cutting edges, and close the clamp.

## 5. Operation

### Sectioning

- 1 Clamp the specimen block in the microtome specimen holder.
- 2 Disengage the blade guard.

- 3 Advance the block carefully toward the blade.
- 4 Trim and section according to your laboratory method.
- 5 Engage the blade guard and lock the handwheel when you stop sectioning.

### Changing or shifting the blade

- 1 Lock the handwheel and engage the blade guard.
- 2 Release the clamp.
- 3 Slide the blade sideways to use an unused part of the edge, or remove it with forceps or a blade remover.
- 4 Dispose of used blades in a sharps container.
- 5 Insert a new blade and close the clamp.

## 6. Cleaning and disinfection

- Lock the handwheel and remove the blade before cleaning.
- Brush paraffin chips and debris from the holder with a soft brush; never wipe toward a blade edge.
- Remove paraffin residue with a suitable solvent compatible with the holder materials, then dry.
- Disinfect per laboratory protocol.
- The holder may be autoclaved per the listing; remove it from the microtome, clean it, and dry fully afterward to prevent corrosion.

## 7. Maintenance and storage

- Lightly oil moving parts and clamp surfaces periodically, if appropriate for your laboratory, and wipe off excess.
- Check the clamp holds the blade firmly without play.
- Store the holder clean and dry, without a blade installed.
- Inspect the clamping surfaces for nicks and corrosion.

## 8. Troubleshooting

| Problem                             | Likely cause                                    | What to do                                                              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chatter or uneven sections          | Blade or holder not clamped firmly              | Tighten the holder and blade clamp; check the specimen block is secure. |
| Sections compress or crumble        | Dull blade or incorrect clearance angle         | Shift or replace the blade; adjust the clearance angle.                 |
| Holder does not fit the microtome   | Mount not compatible                            | Check your microtome model and contact the supplier.                    |
| Blade will not slide into the clamp | Debris in the clamp or clamp not fully released | Release fully and clean the clamp.                                      |
| Scratches or lines in sections      | Nick in blade edge                              | Move the blade to an unused part of the edge or replace it.             |

## 9. Disposal

- Dispose of used blades in a sharps container.
- Decontaminate the holder before disposal and recycle as metal in accordance with local regulations.

## 10. 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](https://scimedstore.com/pages/warranty).

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

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