

# Instruments Packer

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The Instruments Packer assembles, wraps and labels complete instrument packs for the Pre-Prep, Spay and Neuter Stations and prepares hand towels for autoclaving.

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## Station Alert

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- Instruments that look similar are not interchangeable. (See the diagrams of completed packs included in the Instrument Station Supply Kit.) Never assemble and wrap an incomplete pack.
- Every pack being autoclaved should contain a sterile indicator strip.

## Instruments Packer Instructions

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1. **Assemble the Neuter Packs.** Each pack includes 10 sets of instruments:
  - Assemble instrument sets with one each of the following:
    - 1 piece of gauze
    - 1 curved hemostat
  - Layer 10 sets on a blue towel.
  - Place a sterile indicator strip on top. Wrap pack. Wrap again with another blue towel.
  - Secure with autoclave tape.
  - Write “Neuter Pack” on autoclave tape with a permanent marker. Include the full date and initials of the packer on the label.
2. **Assemble the Spay Packs:**
  - Place 1 flat blue towel in the center of a blue pack wrap.
  - Place 5 pieces of gauze on the folded towel.
  - Place the following instruments on top of the gauze and towels:
    - 1 needle holder
    - 1 pair Metzenbaum scissors
    - 1 Brown-Adson forceps
    - 1 spay hook
    - 2 curved mosquito hemostats
    - 1 medium curved Kelly
  - Place a folded cloth drape on top of instruments.
  - Place a sterile indicator strip on top.
  - Fold the bottom pack wrap around the entire pack, using the prescribed method as shown.
  - Wrap the pack in another 24” x 24” cloth pack wrap, again using the prescribe method. Place a piece of autoclave tape (approximately 6”) across the final fold.
  - Fold the outer edge of the autoclave tape over on itself about ½” to allow for easy removal by the surgeon.

- Write “Spay Pack” on the autoclave tape with a permanent marker. Include the full date and initials of the packer on the label.
- 3. **Pack Carmalts (large hemostats with green and blue tape) individually** in autoclave pouches with curved tips toward the plastic side of the sterilization pouch to prevent poking through the paper.
- 4. **Assemble individual spare instrument packs:**
  - Check individual instrument drawers to make sure 5 individual instruments of each type are sterilized in the drawers. If any packs are dated 12 months or longer since being autoclaved, take them out of their pouches, repack into new pouches, label and re-autoclave.
  - Use the sterile pouches and label with instrument type, full date and initial.
  - Package gauze in a pouch using 10-20 pieces per pouch. Label “sterile gauze” with the full date and initials.
  - Package individual drapes in a pouch in case one is missing from a pack or needs to be replaced during surgery. Label “sterile drape” with the full date and initials.
- 5. **Assemble 5 hand towel packs.**
  - Wrap each pack with a surgical towel and masking tape.
  - Write “Hand Towel Pack” on the masking tape with a permanent marker. Include the full date and initials of the packer on the label.
- 6. **Identify defective instruments** with tape and deliver them to the Clinic Supervisor to assess for repair or disposal.
- 7. **Place unused instruments together in a tray at the conclusion of the clinic.** Do not wrap them.

## All Station Images

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## Station Closing and Cleanup

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When the clinic is concluded:

- Inventory the remaining supplies.
- Clean the area and dispose of all trash.