

# Conventional Surgical Blades

## INTENDED USES

- Tissue separation
- Dissection
- Any procedure that requires a sharp blade to puncture or cut.

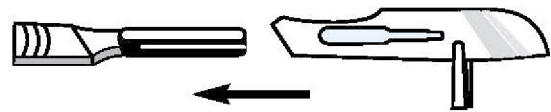
## IMPORTANT TIPS TO REMEMBER

- Blades should never be fitted to handles with damaged or worn fitments as they may not fully engage with or support the blade.
- Dropping a blade into a metal container or making contact with the cutting edge when attaching to a handle will reduce the initial keenness of the blade's cutting edge.
- Sharpness is a perception and is usually measured by whether or not the blade or scalpel being used is perceived to be adequate in performing the task at hand efficiently. This is impacted by numerous variables including the age, type and ethnicity of skin, the surgical site, close proximity with bone, minimally invasive or open surgery, elective or emergency procedures, etc.
- Rapid corrosion occurs when the air and anesthetic liquid interface with metal. Stainless steel blades are more resistant to rusting, taking nearly 12 hours to show any corrosive effects.
- If carbon blades are preferred by surgeons, due to the perceived initial sharpness, immersion in local anesthetics should be avoided and a new blade should be used after cutting an area that has been coated with local anesthetic.

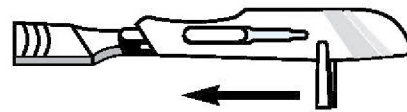
## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

### ATTACHING A SURGICAL BLADE

1. Grip blade with forceps, or similar, avoiding contact with cutting edge.
2. Hold handle in left hand with bayonet fitting uppermost.



3. Place blade partway over handle fitting and engage slots.
4. Slide blade until it clicks into position.

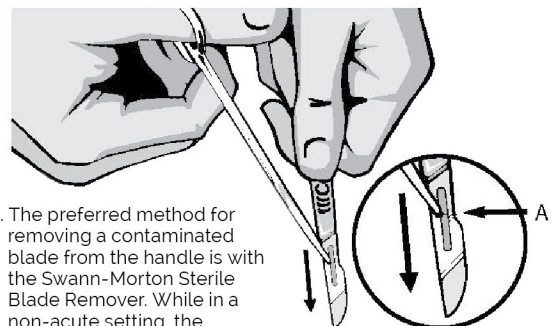


5. To improve assembly, flex blade slightly upwards when sliding onto the handle.



### REMOVING A SURGICAL BLADE

1. Grip the blade with forceps or needle holders at point A making sure that the cutting edge is facing away from the hand and body.
2. Ensure the blade is pointing downwards and towards the trolley and NOT towards another member of your team.
3. While holding the handle firmly, lift the back edge of the blade with the forceps or needle holders and slide away the handle.



4. The preferred method for removing a contaminated blade from the handle is with the Swann-Morton Sterile Blade Remover. While in a non-acute setting, the Qlicksmart BladeFLASK can also be utilized.