

Surgical Instruments

by Atieh Jibbe, MD

SCISSORS

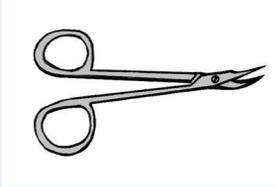
Iris

Contains short handle and sharp tip that is used for sharp dissection and cutting on the face.



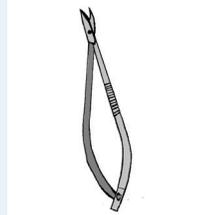
Gradle

Curved and tapered; used in periorbital region.



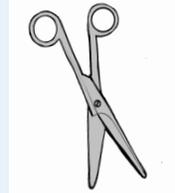
Westcott

Used for cutting around the eye.



Mayo

Used for coarse dissection; contains a 1:1 handle to blade ratio.



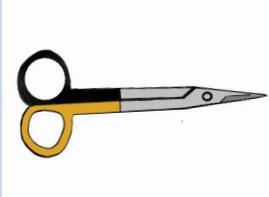
Metzenbaum

Used for blunt dissection. Helpful in areas that require long reach.



Supercut

One blade has razor edge denoted with black handle.



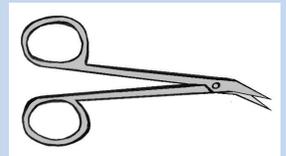
Spencer

Notched end for cutting sutures.



O'Brien

Used for cutting sutures in delicate areas.



FORCEPS

Adson

Used for trunk and extremities.



Bishop Harmon

Delicate tissues (Mnemonic: HOLEY bishop).



Jewelers

Distinguished by pointed tips; Used for suture removal.



SCALPEL HANDLES

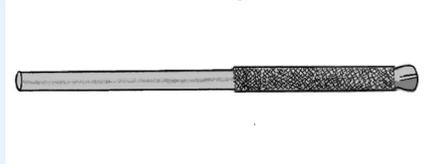
Bard-Parker

Flat handle; Most common blade handle used in dermatologic surgery.



Beaver

Round or hexagonal handle; Used for delicate areas ie. around the eyes.



SCALPEL BLADES



#10

Used for cutting thick skin ie. Back; Mnemonic: blade looks like a 0 from number 10.



#11

Used for I&D or cutting sharp angles; Mnemonic: two lines like the two "ones" in number 11 forming a point.



#15

Most commonly used in dermatologic surgery.

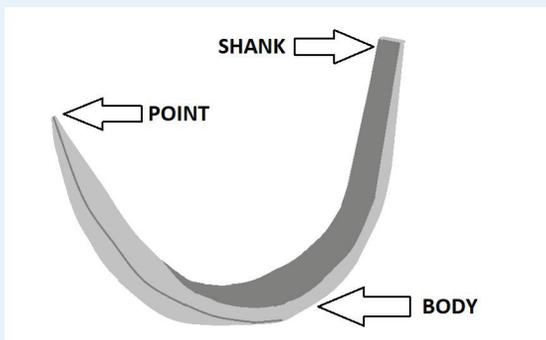


Atieh Jibbe, MD, is PGY-3 at University of Kansas department of dermatology.

Surgical Instruments (continued)

by Atieh Jibbe, MD

SURGICAL NEEDLE



Parts of a Needle

Shank aka Swage: weakest portion of needle

Body: strongest portion of needle; various curvatures with most common being 3/8th

Tip: option of round vs cutting

-Round: used for soft tissues and muscle

-Cutting: mc in derm, easily passes through tissues

Reverse cutting with sharp edge on outer portion of needle is **less likely** for sutures to tear through wound edge than Conventional cutting with sharp edge on the inner portion.

NEEDLE DRIVERS

Smooth Jaws (Smaller)

For smaller needles;
Decreases risk of tearing small sutures and less damaging to small fine needles, but increases risk of needle twisting.



Serrated jaws (larger)

For larger needles and work on the trunk;
Holds needles more securely, but damages delicate needles and shreds small sutures.



MISCELLANEOUS

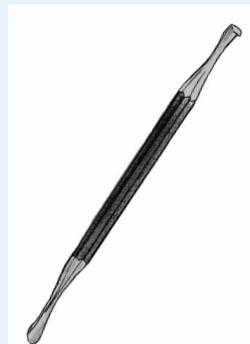
Hemostat

Used to grasp bleeding vessels before ligation.



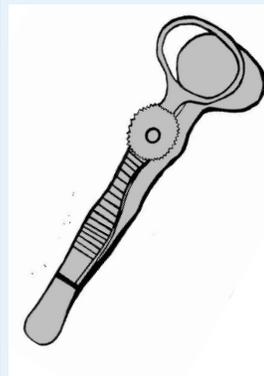
Periosteal Elevator

Used to separate nail plate from nail bed or remove periosteum.



Chalazion Clamp

Used for eyelid or lip surgery.



Skin Hook

Least traumatic tool for handling tissue.



Information References

1. Hocker, Thomas L. H., and Ali Alikhan. Review of Dermatology. Elsevier - Health Sciences Div, 2016.
2. Mariwalla, Kavita, and David J. Leffell. Primer in Dermatologic Surgery: a Study Companion. American Society for Dermatologic Surgery, 2011.

ALL PHOTOS TAKEN OR DRAWN BY AUTHOR

Boards Fodders online!



In addition to this issue's Boards Fodder, you can download the new online Boards Fodder at www.aad.org/Directions.

Go online for a new Boards Fodder web exclusive, **CPT Billing Codes of Common Procedures**, by Janna Mieko Vassantachart, MD, and Parin Pearl Rimtepathip, MD.

To view, download, or print every Boards Fodder ever published, check out the archives at www.aad.org/boardsfodder.

Ready to pay it forward?



Ready to pay it forward? You can help future residents by helping the AAD ensure access to resident education. It's important.

See why at www.aad.org/ResidentEducationGrant