

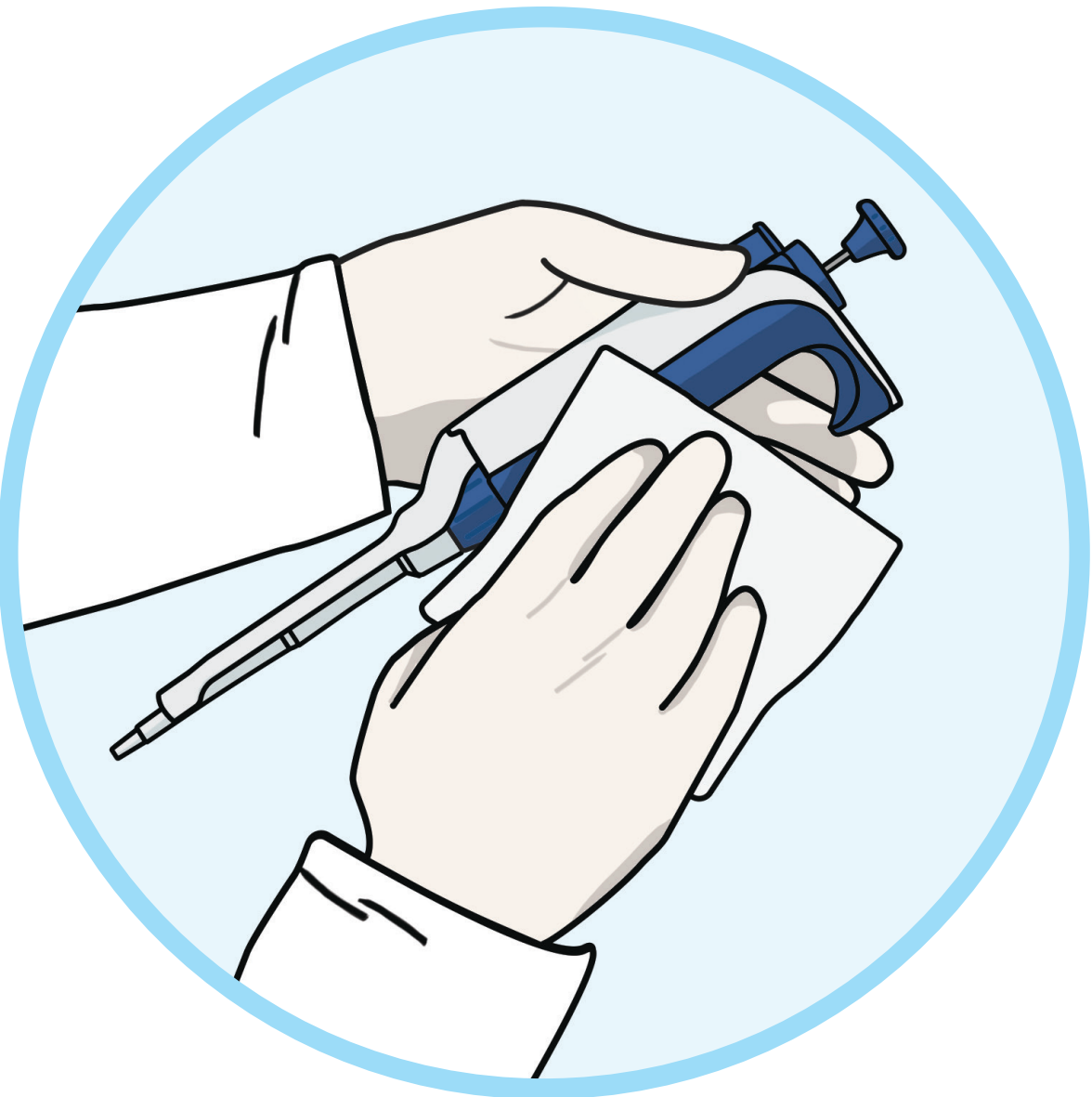


# Cleaning a Pipette

## Keep Your Pipette Contaminant-Free

### Basic Exterior Cleaning

- Wipe exterior using a non-abrasive cloth moistened with fresh 10% bleach solution, or 60% isopropyl alcohol, or detergent solution.
- Lightly scrub any caked-on grit with a toothbrush.
- Use any detergent designed to clean labware. If sold as concentrate, dilute to manufacturer’s recommended strength.
- Use care around the volume display window – excess liquid can fog or stain the screen, requiring service to replace.
- With water or distilled water, wet a non-abrasive cloth and wipe off the pipette.



### Also consider...

**Filter Tips**  
Using filter tips to prevent liquid, particles and aerosols from contaminating pipette

**10 µL ShaftGuard™ Tips**  
Using ShaftGuard tips, which protect pipette shaft from radioactive and other hazardous samples

**Bleach**  
Cleaning work area regularly with fresh 10% bleach solution

**Workflow**  
Designating separate work areas for specific applications and workflow steps

### Full Decontamination Single-channel pipettes only

Decontaminating your pipettes helps ensure reliable results but, done improperly, can adversely affect their performance. Take extra care when following the steps below.

#### Parts to Clean

Tip ejector

Shaft

#### Set Aside

Piston, Spring, Seal

Piston disassembly and cleaning aren't recommended. Reassembling the parts incorrectly or using the wrong lubricant can negatively affect pipette performance.

Pipette body

Sample	Cleanser	Action
<b>DNA, RNA</b>	Fresh 10% bleach solution or DNA/RNA cleanser	Immerse for 10 minutes. Rinse with distilled water. Wipe with isopropyl alcohol and allow to air dry.
<b>Proteins</b>	Fresh 10% bleach solution or detergent. <b>Not</b> alcohol	Immerse for 10 minutes. Rinse with distilled water and allow to air dry.
<b>RNase</b>	RNase decontaminant solution (RNaseAway®, RNaseZap®) or 95% EtOH followed by 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Immerse in RNase decontaminant solution for one minute, then rinse with distilled water and air dry. Alternatively, immerse briefly in 95% ethanol, rinse, then immerse in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 10 minutes. Rinse, and air dry.
<b>Aqueous solution</b>	Detergent solution or 70% ethanol	Immerse for 5 minutes. Rinse with distilled water, then wipe with isopropyl alcohol and allow to air dry.
<b>Organic solvent</b>	Detergent solution	Immerse for 5 minutes. Rinse with distilled water and allow to air dry.
<b>Radioactive sample</b>	High-strength radioactivity decontaminant (COUNT-OFF™ surface cleaner, Decon 90™ cleaning agent)	Immerse for 5 minutes. Rinse 3x with distilled water. Measure with Geiger counter for radioactivity. Properly dispose of gloves, liquids and all cleaning materials according to your organization's radioactive safety procedures.

**Notes:** Rainin shafts and tip ejectors are fully autoclavable. On XLS+ models, the piston assembly is too. When using cleansers – particularly bleach – be sure to rinse thoroughly.

**Inspect piston**  
Look for nicks, corrosion

**Use long-stemmed foam swab**  
Moisten with cleaning agent

**Examine shaft interior**  
Look for obstructions

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