

CHANGING PINS IN MANUAL GLASS SLIDE MICROARRAYERS VP 470/VP 478 OR VP 470/VP 478A

Disinfecting:

The entire VP 470 Manual Glass Slide Indexing Unit and VP 478 Glass Slide Replicator can be disinfected by carefully wiping with 5% bleach, distilled water then alcohol. Always remove any bleach residue from the unit after disinfecting.

For cleaning the Replicator pins between each transfer from the source plate, we recommend using the VP 475 Glass Slide Arrayer Wash and Blot Station. The four wash reservoirs and blot stations of the VP 475 will accommodate one 5% bleach bath, two distilled water baths and an alcohol bath.

If you use bleach, you must remove it from the pins before placing them into a source plate. We recommend at least two additional distilled water dips to dilute out the bleach. It is important that the pins be dry before going into the source plate. For this reason, we recommend using a final alcohol dip and air dry the pins.

It is important that the liquid in the baths not get into the holes on the bottom float plate, as that will interfere with the pins floating freely. We recommend only filling the baths with just enough liquid to cover the "high water mark" of the liquid in the microplates. Because the pins can be bent easily, it is best not to touch the pins on the bottom of wells or baths. Both the VP 472 Microplate Indexing System and the VP 475 Wash and Blot Station are designed to prevent accidental damage to the pins.

Hydrogen peroxide may also be used to disinfect the pins as long as it is rinsed off with distilled water. The percentage of hydrogen peroxide necessary will vary between applications.

Care:

After each day's use we recommend that the pins be cleaned in an ultrasonic bath with MICRO 90® ultrasonic detergent at a 1/100 dilution. Rinse in two baths of distilled water, dip twice in alcohol, and air dry. Avoid long periods of soaking in bleach or detergent baths. If you use an ultrasonic bath, hold the Replicator in the bath to one-half the exposed length of the pin without letting the pins touch the bottom of the reservoir (the vibrating bottom surface of the sonicator's reservoir may damage the pin tips). If Pin Cleaning Solution (VP 110) is being used, treat the pins with Pin Cleaning Solution after cleaning and rinsing (see Technical Note 40-Pin Cleaning Solution Instructions). The guide pins on the indexing unit and base unit should be treated with a light coating of silicone grease occasionally.

NOTE FOR SET UP AND ARRAYING: Please see Figures 1 and 2 for illustrations of the various subcomponents.



Figure 1. Remove VP 478 or VP 478A Glass Slide Replicator from VP 470 Glass Slide Indexer and set on lab bench with Allen screws facing up.

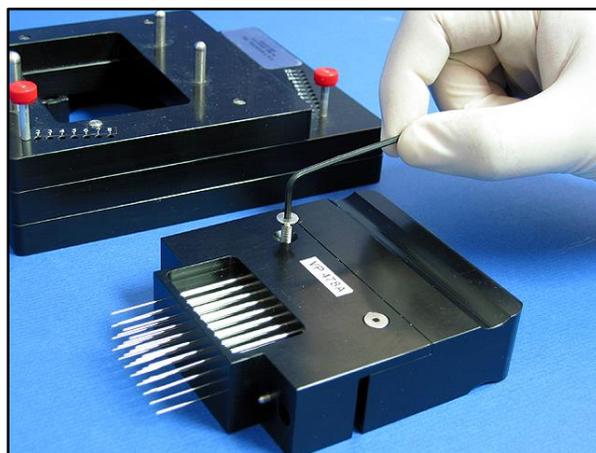


Figure 2. Using 2mm Allen Wrench from the Accessories Box, remove the two Allen screws from the Glass Slide Replicator. Set screws aside. Remove top half of Glass Slide Replicator and set aside.

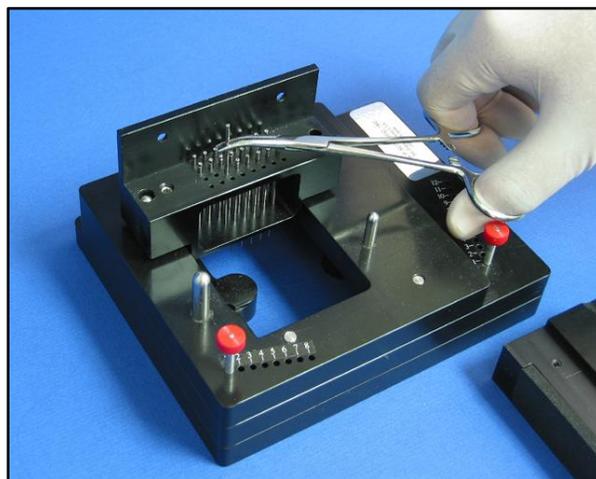


Figure 3. Carefully lift lower half of Glass Slide Replicator (with pins in place) and set on Guide Pins of VP 470 Glass Slide Indexer. Using tweezers or hemostats, remove pins as necessary.



Figure 4. Drop individual pins into upper pin hole. If pin does not drop directly through second hold, gently tap side of Glass Slide Replicator until pin drops in place.



Figure 5.