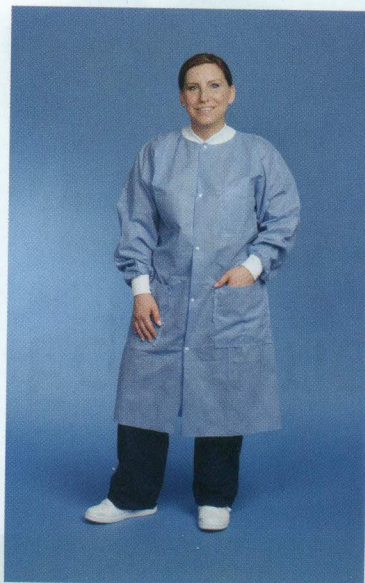


Sterilization Equipment





■ INSTRUMENT Laboratory Coat

Function ▶ To protect clothing, surgical scrubs, and skin during patient care and sterilization process to prevent contamination from blood and body substances

Characteristics ▶ Disposable (pictured) or cloth (Cloth gowns must be made of polyester and cotton in accordance with state and federal regulations.)

Cuffed long sleeves

Closure at neckline

Moisture resistant (against contamination by liquids)

Practice Notes ▶ All protective clothing should be removed before leaving the work place.
Follow regulations within the state for standard precautions.

S Dispose of lab coat in garbage at the end of the day. If lab coat becomes visibly soiled during the work day, change to a new lab coat. Cloth lab coats must be laundered each day.



■ INSTRUMENT Protective Mask

Functions ▶ To protect against chemicals, airborne pathogens, bacteria, and viruses during processing of instruments for sterilization

To protect against airborne pathogens, bacteria, and viruses and against scrap filling material during all phases of patient treatment

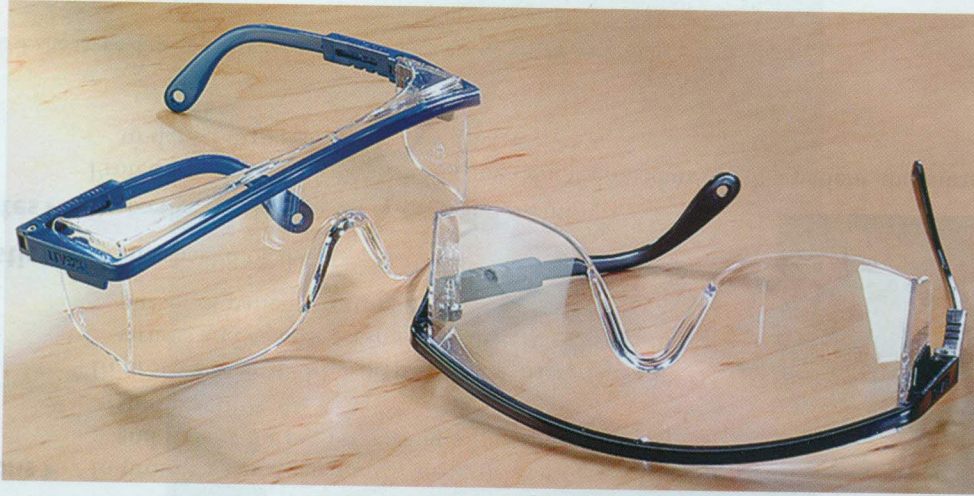
Characteristic ▶ Dome shaped or flat

Practice Notes ▶ Protective Mask must cover nose and mouth.

Protective Mask must be worn during dental procedures with a patient and during any exposure to dental material that is airborne.



S Protective Mask should be disposed of in the garbage. A new mask must be used with each patient.



■ INSTRUMENT Protective Glasses/Eye Wear

Functions ▶ To protect against chemicals, airborne pathogens, bacteria, and viruses during processing of instruments for sterilization

To protect against airborne pathogens, bacteria, and viruses during patient care and against scrap-filling material during restorative and rinsing phases of patient treatment

Characteristics ▶ Extend to sides, top, and bottom of eyes for complete protection

Variety of styles available—some styles are larger to fit over prescription glasses.

Practice Notes ▶ Facial shields available for eye protection (mask must be worn)

Protective Glasses must be worn during dental procedures with a patient and during any exposure to dental material that is airborne.



S Glasses are disinfected between patients according to the manufacturer's recommendation.



Photo courtesy CrossTex, Hauppauge, NY.

■ INSTRUMENT**Examination Gloves**

- Functions ▶**
- To wear during patient care
 - To wear as a protective barrier
 - To wear during treatment room disinfection

- Characteristics ▶**
- Latex, nitrile, or vinyl
 - Nonsterile gloves worn for most dental procedures; sterile gloves may be worn for surgical procedures.
 - Various sizes available

- Practice Notes ▶**
- Examination Gloves are single use only. Wash hands prior to putting on gloves and after removing gloves. Must change if leaving patient care, or use overgloves (refer to page 564). Replace worn or torn gloves immediately. If procedure is long, change gloves every hour. Gloves must go over cuff of lab coat.



Examination Gloves must be disposed of in the garbage.



INSTRUMENT

Overgloves

- Functions** ▶ To wear over examination gloves when leaving the patient
To wear as a protective barrier over examination gloves so as not to cross-contaminate
- Characteristics** ▶ Lightweight clear gloves
Not to be worn for dental procedures
Various sizes available
- Practice Notes** ▶ New set of overgloves must be used for each patient. Keep overgloves in an uncontaminated area of the treatment room. Must be careful to not contaminate outside of overgloves when putting on over examination gloves.



Overgloves must be disposed of in the garbage.



Product photo courtesy Hu-Friedy Mfg. Co., LLC, Chicago, IL.

■ INSTRUMENT

Nitrile Utility Gloves

- Functions ►**
- To protect hands during processing of instruments for sterilization procedures
 - To wear for preparation and handling of chemicals
 - To disinfect operator
 - To transport cartridges of tray setups to sterilization area

- Characteristics ►**
- Chemical resistant
 - Puncture resistant
 - Ribbed for nonslip grip
 - Range of sizes and colors

- Practice Note ►** Nitrile Utility Gloves should be kept in sterilization area of office.



Nitrile Utility Gloves are disinfected after each use. Sterilize according to the manufacturer's recommendation, and refer to local and state regulations.

