



# There's a right way



## and a wrong way to fit a surgical blade



**Don't destroy a perfect cutting edge**

Blades should never be fitted to handles with damaged or worn fitments

**Swann-Morton®**

Sheffield - England



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# SAFE HANDLING - PROCEDURES

## *Safe Handling of Swann-Morton Blades*

**The way in which a surgical blade is handled prior to use can determine how effectively it performs during use.**

it is not dropped into a metal bowl or container as this can reduce the initial keenness of the cutting edge even before it is fitted to the handle.

If you have to use forceps or needle holders to remove the blade from its protective packet ensure that you do not grip the blade across the cutting edge.

There are a number of ways that the cutting edge of a blade can become damaged once removed from its protective foil packet.

When removing a blade from the protective packet make sure

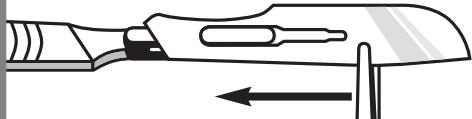
### *Attaching a surgical blade*

**Use the following procedure to attach 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.



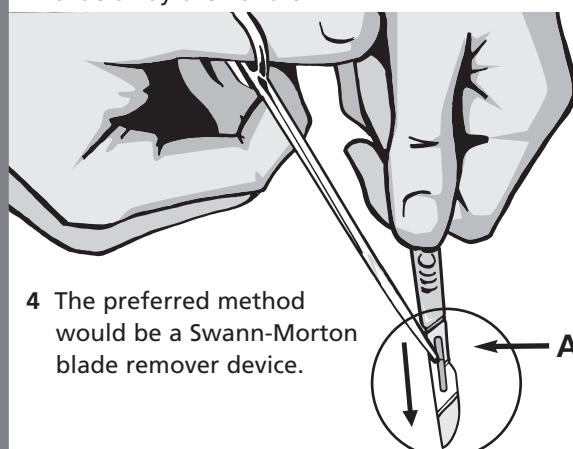
- 5 To improve assembly, flex blade slightly upwards when sliding onto the handle.



### *Removing a surgical blade*

**Use the following procedure to detach 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 Whilst holding the handle firmly lift the back edge of the blade with the forceps or needle holders and slide away the handle.



### **DON'T DESTROY A PERFECT CUTTING EDGE**

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