

Thermo Scientific™ Tissue-Loc™ HistoScreen™ Instructions for Use

Thermo Scientific™ Tissue-Loc HistoScreen cassettes are used for handling small biopsies and fragile specimens. The unique design provides an inner chamber lined with a "see-through" mesh for easy identification of specimens. They eliminate the need for messy sponges or lens papers. Tissue-Loc HistoScreen cassettes are available in bulk packaging and in tubes intended for high throughput printing.

Instructions for Use:

1. Grossing

- a. Preprint or label HistoScreen cassette(s) with pertinent identification information.
- b. Place specimen into the HistoScreen cassette and close the cassette. Please note the following tips:
 - Vertically place the HistoScreen into the formalin slowly and fill the inner chamber with formalin to break the surface tension
 - Immersing the cassette in fluid (water or formalin) prior to pouring the specimen into the cassette will prevent the sample from overflowing the rim of the cassette
 - To filter through the screen, it is best to have paper towel under the cassette and gently touch the screen with a blunt instrument while the liquid containing tissue fragments is being poured into the cassette; this starts a capillary action flow
 - **Review the mesh of the HistoScreen cassette to ensure that there are no tears or openings**
- c. Place the cassette into tissue fixative such as formalin until all cassettes are ready to be loaded onto the tissue processor.

2. Embedding

- a. Carefully open one HistoScreen cassette at a time.
- b. Small tissues may have migrated to the corners of the inner chamber; the curved edges of the inner chamber ensure that even the smallest tissue is easy to retrieve.
- c. **Care should be taken to avoid touching the mesh with forceps, as this may cause small tissues to bounce out of the cassette.**
- d. Place the tissues into the embedding mold following normal laboratory procedures. Be certain all tissues are removed from the HistoScreen cassette and are placed into the mold. Check the lid for tissues.
- e. Remove the lid from the base and place the base on the embedding mold. Add molten paraffin. Please note the following tips:
 - If the screen is warm, paraffin will flow easier through the cassette
 - Tilting the mold slightly while filling minimizes air bubbles; you can also punch a hole in the screen, since the screen has no more use at this point.
 - Filling the mold with the cassette slightly to one side of the mold will help eliminate air bubbles
 - Once the mold and cassette are filled with paraffin, the screen becomes transparent and you can see the tissue orientation through the screen
- f. Place the mold- HistoScreen cassette assembly on the embedding center's cooling plate and allow to fully cool.
- g. After the block is fully cooled, remove the embedding mold, remove any excess paraffin flash from around the edge of the cassette, and proceed to microtomy following normal laboratory procedures.

