



OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES @ DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY, Leicester UK

STEPS TO CLEANING A MICROSCOPE

ASSOCIATED RESOURCES

YOUTUBE VIDEO

<http://www.youtube.com/user/biologycourses>

TRANSCRIPT OF VIDEO

1 General Cleaning

Wipe the microscope to make sure there are no stains spilt on it. Wipe the grease off the stage.

2 Check the Mechanics

Check all the mechanics. If anything is a bit loose you can adjust with an allen key.

3 Lubricate the Stage Chasis

Lubricate the chasis of the stage with some contact cleaner.

4 Clean the Optics

Clean the optics with a lens tissue. Use some alcohol. The objectives come off. Higher magnification lens lend themselves more to a q-tip. I am just using IMS (industrial methylated spirit).

Clean the eye pieces.

5 Clear Dust Away

Clear any dust away. Now it can be dusted – this is “Dust Off”. (Small canister of compressed air to blow into the eye pieces).

6 Test the Objectives

Test the objectives using prepared slides. X 40 objective you use a stage micrometer.

What are you checking for? That it is clear – you view the small scales – I use a couple including one that has already got some oil on. Make sure the image is clear with no scratches or damage.

7 Check the Optical Pathway

The last thing to do is check the optical pathway it is like centring a telescope. That makes the light centred on the stage? What you see is rings and you adjust the small ring within the larger ring. That shows that the light path is centred.