

ET Flex™

Interproximal Finishing and Contouring Strips

Brasseler USA's ET Flex™ can be used for finishing restorations, IPR, cement removal, and other procedures requiring interproximal abrasion or finishing.

Directions for Use

The ET Flex™ is a single-hand device which is held with your thumb and forefinger. The patented, safe, flexible design allows the ET Flex™ to perform in both straight and curved manners depending on where you grip the device. This multi-use feature allows you to immediately adapt the strip to suit your specific needs.



To make the ET Flex™ strip more taut for passing through contacts, IPR or other contact separation needs, hold the device above the cross-bar with your thumb and forefinger and apply the degree of pressure necessary to achieve the desired tautness.



In order to make the ET Flex™ strip more flexible for adapting to the curvature of the tooth while finishing a restoration or completing IPR, hold the device below the cross-bar with your thumb and forefinger and apply the degree of pressure necessary to achieve the desired flexibility and curvature.

Interproximal Reduction (IPR)

Use the double or single-sided versions of ET Flex™ in the appropriate sequence from extra-fine to extra-coarse or as needed to create the desired space between teeth. The thicknesses of each ET Flex™ strip can be found on the reverse side of this document.

Cement Removal

With the serrated ET Flex™, use a gentle back and forth motion to remove excess cement in the interproximal area after placing crowns, veneers, bridges, inlays and onlays.

Finishing and Polishing

Use the single-sided Gateway™ versions of ET Flex™ (containing a small area with no diamond coating to allow you to pass through tight contacts without abrading the enamel) in a sequence from medium to extra-fine to create the ideal surface finish prior to final high-gloss polishing. Alternatively, any of the Non-Gateway ET Flex™ devices can also be used for finishing and polishing if you are want to finish and polish directly after IPR/slenderizing (when the Gateway™ is not needed). For a final high-gloss polish, we recommend our ET® Disc or ET Illustra™ polishers.

Cleaning & Sterilization

Clean and sterilize before each use. Do not sterilize using dry heat method.



IMPORTANT:

Prior to using ET Flex™, ligate your device using a piece of dental floss. Tie one end of the floss around the cross-bar of the device and anchor the other end to your finger or drape outside the patient's mouth.

Scope

These instructions are applicable to the ET Flex™ family of products. They are applicable before initial use and after each subsequent use. ET Flex™ products are provided mechanically clean, but are not sterile. Therefore, ET Flex™ products should be sterilized before first use.

Warnings

1. Cleaning agents with chlorine or chloride as the active ingredient are corrosive to stainless steel and plastics and must not be used. Cleaning agents with neutral pH are recommended.
2. Do not use dry heat.

Reprocessing Limitations

The end of life is determined by wear and damage in use and the ET Flex™ should be inspected for defects during the cleaning process.

Point of Use

Delay in reprocessing must be kept to a minimum to avoid contaminants drying thereby making cleaning more difficult.

Containment/Transportation

The ET Flex™ can be transported wet or dry and should be protected from damage. If transported wet there is an increased chance of staining or corrosion. Prolonged storage in disinfectant solutions may result in degradation of the product and must be avoided.

Manual Cleaning Procedure

1. If hand cleaning is the only available option, the ET Flex™ should be cleaned in a sink reserved for the purpose.
2. Rinse the ET Flex™ under running cold water and, keeping it immersed, brush thoroughly away from the body using a neutral cleaning or cleaning/disinfecting agent validated for use on stainless steel dental instruments. Follow the agent manufacturers' instructions.
3. Special care should be taken to clean crevices, blind holds and other hard-to-reach areas thoroughly.
4. Visually inspect to confirm the removal of debris. Repeat the cycle if needed.
5. Perform a final thorough rinse of the device.
6. Dry the device using a non-shedding wipe or clean compressed air.

Automated Cleaning Procedure

1. Rinse the ET Flex™ under running cold water and, keeping it immersed, brush thoroughly away from the body using a neutral cleaning or cleaning/disinfecting agent validated for use on stainless steel dental instruments. Follow the agent manufacturers' instructions. Care should be taken to avoid spreading contaminants by spraying or splashing during the brushing process.
2. Special care should be taken to clean crevices, blind holds and other hard-to-reach areas thoroughly.
3. Prepare a neutral cleaning solution and place in a sonication unit. Follow the agent manufacturers' instructions for correct concentration, exposure time, temperature and water quality. Completely submerge the device in the cleaning solution and sonicate for at least 15 minutes.
4. Visually inspect to confirm the removal of debris. Repeat the cycle if needed.
5. Perform a final thorough rinse of the device.
6. Dry the device using a non-shedding wipe or clean compressed air.

Inspection Testing

1. Carefully inspect each device to ensure that all debris has been removed.
2. Visually inspect the device for damage/ wear that would prevent proper operation.
 - a. Do not use if the plastic surfaces show excessive crazing, cracking or delamination.
 - b. Do not use if the diamond-coated stainless steel strip (where applicable) is showing wear.
 - c. Do not use if the serrated stainless steel strip (where applicable) has broken teeth.
 - d. Do not use if the stainless steel strip exhibits signs of rust.

Packaging

Singly: Pack the device in pouches validated for sterilization.
 In Sets: Place the devices in the dedicated instrument block.

Sterilization

Use the following cycle for steam sterilization:

Cycle Type	Min. Sterilization Exposure Time (Minutes)	Min. Sterilization Exposure Temperature	Min. Dry Time
Gravity	15	121°C (250°F)	15 minutes

Ensure that the sterilizer manufacturer's maximum load is not exceeded.

Storage

The device should be stored in the sterilization pouch (or instrument block) until required.

Additional Information

These processes have been validated as being capable of preparing ET Flex™ products for reuse. Any deviation from these instructions should be properly validated for effectiveness and potential adverse results.

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Manufactured for:

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BRASSLER USA®
 DENTAL INSTRUMENTATION