

APPROXIMATE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY

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The life expectancy of the instruments indicated are approximate only and are merely provided as guidelines. Many factors can lead to a shortened instrument life expectancy, including, but not limited to number of uses, number of sterilizations, number of sharpenings/sharpening technique, instrument care and handling, etc. The approximate life expectancies given in no way constitute a guarantee.

CATEGORY A 0.5 – 1 YEAR

Scalers/Curettes
Mirror Heads

CATEGORY B 1 – 2 YEARS

Perio Knives/Explorers
Gold Knives
Heat Carriers/Spreaders
Endo Pluggers
Rubber Dam Clamps
Ultrasonic Inserts

CATEGORY C 2 – 4 YEARS

Scissors
Probes
Surgical Curettes
Root Tip Picks
Carvers
Cavity Prep
Amalgam Carriers

CATEGORY D 4 – 7 YEARS

Elevators/Periosteals
Bone Chisels/Bone Files
Needle Holders/Hemostats/Tissue Pliers
Pluggers/Burnishers
Plastic Filling Instruments
Dressing Pliers
Waxing Instruments

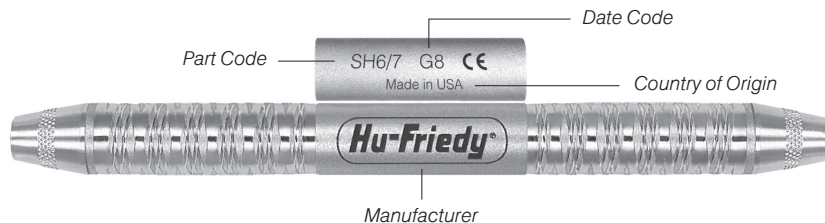
CATEGORY E 7+ YEARS

Forceps/Rongeurs
Ortho Pliers
Spatulas
Rubber Dam Forceps
Rubber Dam Punch
Mirror Handles
IMS Cassettes

INSTRUMENT IDENTIFICATION

Instrument handles are available in a variety of shapes and styles.
The following should be considered when selecting instrument handles:

- Weight** : Hollow handles increase tactile transfer and minimize fatigue.
- Diameter** : Large handles maximize control and encourage a lighter grasp.
- Texture** : Knurled handles enhance control by providing a positive gripping surface.



READING DATE CODES

Month Codes for 1990 - 1999

Month	
A	January
B	February
C	March
D	April
E	May
F	June
G	July
H	August
J	September
K	October
L	November
M	December

Month Codes for 2000 - 2009

N
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z

Year Codes

The last digit of the year in question is the year code.

For example

January 1991 = A1
January 2001 = N1

2010 AND LATER:

Four digit all numeric date code representing the month and year.

Format will be MMYT.

For example:

January 2010 = 0110
February 2010 = 0210

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