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You need the right instruments, You need to know how to use them, You need to keep them sharp

Dental elevator tips are delicate and undue force may break them. The proper use of winged elevators will add longevity and increase performance. Do not attempt to lever the tooth out of the socket with an elevator, this will destroy the factory edge or cause breakage. Any use in an incorrect manner is obvious and will not be replaced by the manufacturer.



LUXATOR

Used for "digging". Thinner than a winged tipped elevator and a luxator does not have "wings". It's intended use is to increase the periodontal ligament space. The luxator makes room for the winged tipped elevator, which is thicker. Do not twist with luxator, push down towards the root with a side to side motion, staying parallel to the root. For luxators under size 2mm, please have long, thin handles. The long handles are intended to be held like a pencil & used with light pressure to avoid bending the tip.



WINGED TIPPED ELEVATOR

Used to get motion of a root. If healthy periodontal ligament, use luxator first. Then place in periodontal ligament space, next to root, twist gently and hold about 20 seconds. (about 1/4 turn) Do this in 4-6 places around root. If you get no motion after leveraging 4-6 spots around the root, put down the winged tipped elevator and go back to digging with the luxator. *Always use gentle pressure to avoid damaging elevator.



PERIOSTEAL ELEVATOR

Used to separate the gingiva from the alveolar bone. Avoid using these to push back tissue while using drill. This causes drill marks, use a metal dental spatula or tongue depressor.

ARE YOU USING THE RIGHT LENGTH HANDLE?

Many people have elevators & luxators with 4" handles and they should be using 3". This will decrease power and control. To ensure optimal comfort and effectiveness, measure the tool to your hand. Place end of handle in the center of your palm, then lay the tool on your index finger. The tip of the instrument should end just slightly past your finger tip.

INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE

Sharpening stones needed: Arkansas stone with oil or a ceramic stone along with a conical stone are needed for hand sharpening. Ideally, you should sharpen instruments after every use but, at least every few uses can suffice. If you don't sharpen your instruments by hand, mail instruments every few months to Precision Instrument Sharpening. When the tips eventually become too short (25% of head left) from use and sharpening, they need to be replaced.

SHARPENING SERVICE

<u>Precision Instrument Sharpening</u> offers Mail-in and In-Clinic (NY & AZ) sharpening service. Fast turnaround time and done by experienced veterinary technicians.

FREE SHARPENING WEBINAR

Go to <u>www.pisharpening.com</u> to download your FREE 45 min On-Demand webinar on how to sharpen all of your dental instruments. Live zoom sharpening classes available. Email <u>info@pisharpening.com</u> to book a private coaching class. Free instrument recommendations.