

Clipping Procedure

Before starting

- Fill a liquid nitrogen transfer dewars. Make sure it dry before beginning
- Assemble the necessary tools:
 - Flat-T autoloader forceps
 - C-clip holder wands (one per grid)
 - Rings and C-clips (one per grid)
 - Screwdriver
 - all part of the transfer station for grid clipping:
 - Table-top cryo dewar (and cover)
 - Aluminum & brass specimen transfer pedestal
 - circular platform aimed holding wands

Load C-clips into the holder wands.

- 1. Use forceps and firm pressure to insert a single C-clip into the wand.
 - Make sure that the C-clip is hugging the inside wall of the wand.
 - Use forceps to adjust if necessary.
- 2. To align the C-clip at the tip of the wand.
 - a. [Hold the wand vertically by positioning it into the circular opening of the brass part of the transfer base.](#)

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- b. Press down on the wand trigger to engage and align the C-clip at the tip of the wand.
- 3. Inspect proper placement of the C-clip

Prepare the transfer station setup

Arrange the transfer setup as pictured. It should include the specimen transfer pedestal, loaded C-clip wands, and autoloader forceps.

Additionally, place clip rings (flat-side down) in each of the four mounting positions in the brass portion of the transfer pedestal.

Inspect each clip ring to make sure that the clip side is face-up.

Once clip rings are in place, rotate the brass disc such that all clips are covered. This will ensure they do not move while cooling the station.

Place cryo-EM grid box(es) on the sample pedestal. Open them using the grid box fastener wand. Keep the grid box top attached to the fastner wand until needed.

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