

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LEICA UC6 MICROTOME

1. Turn the power on by pressing the toggle switch on the left side of the control panel.
2. Turn lighting on by touching the screen in the center on the arrow key pointing up (↑).
3. Load the sample block in the specimen holder and tighten using the Allen wrench.
4. Lock the specimen holder assembly into the trimming block. Slide the trimming block onto the main stage of the instrument. Expose the tissue on the block face and trim it into a trapezoid shape with a razor blade.
5. Load the specimen holder assembly on the cutting arm. Slide the knife assembly onto the main stage.
6. Reset the main stage by touching the reset icon.
7. Mount a glass knife in the knife holder. Set the clearance angle at 4° (for a glass knife, or follow manufacturer's instructions). Manually move the knife holder assembly towards the specimen. Lock the knife holder assembly in place by pushing the locking lever to the right.
8. Turn the back lighting on (↓).
9. Advance the main stage towards the specimen block by turning the coarse advance wheel toward N while looking through the binoculars. The knife assembly may be moved left and right with the East-West wheel. Adjust the knife edge (horizontal) and block face (vertical) so they are parallel to each other.
10. Touch the screen at the thickness and speed setting desired.
11. Smooth the block face using the right side of the knife. Move towards the left side of the knife and cut 1-3 um thick sections.
12. When semi-thin or thin-sections are being cut, a "wet knife edge" should be used. The instrument must be set on the automatic cutting mode. Move the specimen to the top of the desired cutting window. Touch <start>. Move the specimen past the knife edge. Touch <end>.
13. Start the instrument on the automatic cutting mode by pushing the green start button on the lower panel.
14. Record your complete name and the number of hours you have used the microtome on the record sheet.