



15 TIPS FOR ROTOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE



As a global centrifugation leader, Beckman Coulter understands the value of protecting your investment. Observing operating procedures and precautions provided in individual rotor manuals helps optimize your separation results and ensures the safe and long-lasting operation of your centrifugation systems. Implementing the following care and maintenance recommendations will help keep service requirements and downtime to a minimum.

INSPECTION

1. Inspect the rotor at least monthly—especially inside cavities and buckets—for rough spots, cracks, pitting, white powder deposits (on aluminum rotors) or heavy discoloration. If any of these signs are present, discontinue rotor use.
2. Regularly check that all sealing surfaces are smooth and undamaged in order to ensure proper sealing. Replace O-rings as required. For heavy usage, replace twice a year.
3. Our Field Rotor Inspection Program (FRIP) is one more way to maximize functionality and enhance efficiencies. Learn more at info.beckmancoulter.com/FRIP

SAMPLE LOADING

4. Familiarize yourself with the rotor's imbalance tolerance specifications before your run.
5. Ensure samples and, where applicable, buckets are properly counterbalanced and positioned symmetrically across the rotor spindle.
6. Verify that all labware has the correct chemical resistances and attributes for the sample type and application you're running.
7. Before seating the rotor, make sure the instrument's chamber and spindle are clean and dry.
8. Use proper fill volumes, adapters and spacers, and remove moisture from the exterior of all tubes or bottles to prevent them from collapsing.
9. Always ensure the rotor lid is properly attached and tightened.
10. Observe required speed reductions for running high-density solutions, plastic adapters, or stainless steel tubes.

CLEANING & LUBRICATION

11. Regularly washing and lubricating rotors, rotor components and accessories thoroughly will help extend their useful life. Wash rotors and rotor components, including O-rings, immediately if they come into contact with salts or other harmful materials; do not allow these materials to dry on rotor surfaces. Use a soft brush and a mild detergent diluted 10:1 with water. Do not wash rotor components or accessories in a dishwasher or soak them in a detergent solution.
12. Do not immerse or spray a swinging-bucket rotor body with water; water trapped inside can cause corrosion.
13. Rinse all rotors and rotor components thoroughly with water and air-dry the body or buckets upside down. Do not use acetone to dry rotors.
14. Clean rotor threads—including on plugs, buckets, and cavities—with a small amount of concentrated detergent, then rinse and dry thoroughly before lubricating.
15. Remove O-rings or gaskets using a non-metal tool to avoid scratches, then wipe them and any contact surfaces clean. Apply a light coat of silicone vacuum grease before reassembly.