

FILTER CLEANING

The vast majority of Omega Optical's interference filters are either sputtered oxide or coatings protected with coverslips. Occasionally, Omega does produce filters that are fragile and should merely be blown off with compressed air or puffer. These filters will be marked as fragile. They are often exposed metal or other materials that are commonly used in the mid-far IR wavelengths.

CLEANING DIRECTIONS FOR DURABLE FILTERS

1. Avoid depositing oil from your hands onto filters by using finger cots or gloves. Hold filters from the edges only. For smaller filters use plastic tweezers to help with handling. Metal tweezers can scratch the coatings.
2. Blow loose dirt and particles from the surface of the filter using a puffer or compressed air. Do not blow air from your mouth as you may deposit small particles. Stop here if you have a fragile filter surface.
3. Apply isopropyl alcohol to a lint-free cotton swab and rub the filters surface in a circular motion, working from the center to edge. Gently apply pressure. Avoid rapid side-to-side motions.
4. Use the puffer to evaporate excess alcohol from filter surfaces.
5. Repeat steps 3 & 4 above using a clean, lint-free cotton swab with each cleaning until all surface contamination is removed.
6. To complete the cleaning process wipe filter surface using lens paper gently applying pressure.
7. Return your filter to the original plastic case or envelope provided.

Note: We do not recommend the use of water, detergents or any other non-optical cleaning materials for this process.