



Custom Filters from Prototype to Production

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. Wear gloves or finger cots to avoid depositing oil from your hands onto the filter's surface. Hold the filter from the edges only. For smaller filters, use plastic tweezers to help with handling. Metal tweezers should not be used, as they can scratch the coatings.
2. Blow loose dirt and particles from the filter's surface using an air compressor or puffer. Do not blow air from your mouth, as you may deposit small particles onto the filter. Stop the process here if you have a fragile filter surface.
3. Apply isopropyl alcohol to a lint-free cotton swab and rub the filter's surface in a circular motion, working from the center to the edges. Gently apply pressure and avoid rapid side-to-side motions.
4. Use the puffer to evaporate excess alcohol from the filter's surface.
5. Repeat steps three and four using a clean, lint-free cotton swab each time. Continue until the surface contamination is removed.
6. Wipe the filter's surface with lens paper and gentle 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.

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