# Rotor Care and Maintenance

- **Improve lab safety**
- **Maximize your investment**
- **Extend equipment life**

## 1. Proper Rotor Care

### PRE-RUN CHECKLIST
- Tubes and bottles are in good condition
- O-rings are in place
- Tubes and bottles are balanced
- Rotor lid is on
- Rotor is correctly secured to the centrifuge drive

### POST-RUN CHECKLIST
- Adapters are removed
- Rotor is clean and dry
- Rotor is stored upside-down, in warm, dry place
- Rotor is polished regularly

### REGULAR MAINTENANCE
- Keep the rotor clean and dry
- Replace worn or damaged o-rings
- Lubricate metal rotor threads and centrifuge spindle to prevent galling
- Schedule a rotor inspection

## 2. Rotor Decontamination

### RADIOACTIVE
When radioactive contamination is suspected:
- Treat with a solution of 70% ethanol, 10% SDS and water (1:1:1 v/v)
- Rinse with ethanol, then with water
- Dry with a soft cloth

**NOTE:** Radioactive chemical decontaminants remove the anodized coating on aluminum and must not be used on aluminum rotors (refer to manufacturer’s instructions)

### BIOLOGICAL
Contaminated rotors can be sterilized by:
- A 2% glutaraldehyde solution*
- Ethylene oxide
- UV irradiation
- Autoclaving at 121°C, 1 bar (15psi) for 15 mins**

**NOTE:** Where sterilization is not necessary, a 70% ethanol solution can be used to disinfect rotors
* Check local regulations on use of chemicals
** Autoclaving is not recommended for some rotors (refer to manufacturer's instructions)

## 3. Sample Loading

- Fill tube to specified volume and balance to specified tolerance.
- Place tube into cartridge or rotor cavity, ensuring tube fits perfectly into the cavity.
- Load into rotor. Where applicable, ensure rotor lids are not cross threaded and are securely tightened.
- Confirm buckets are in place on arms.

## 4. Loading Centrifuge

- Follow manufacturer's instruction for locking mechanism, securing the rotor.
- Confirm rotor is locked down before pressing start.
- Confirm buckets will swing freely during run.

## Protect Your Investment

Centrifuge rotor maintenance is critical to the protection of your samples. Leveraging more than 100 years of experience and leadership in centrifugation, our Thermo Scientific Rotor Safety Program, featuring on-site rotor inspection and safety clinics, ensures the longevity of your investment and the safety of your workplace by preventing premature rotor failure.

Thermo Scientific product representatives will evaluate the safety of your rotors and provide a comprehensive report for each rotor examined. As part of the inspection, our representatives will present information on proper rotor care and offer recommendations based upon the current rotor condition to maximize the performance of your centrifuge. Please contact your sales representative to schedule a clinic.

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Maximize the performance of your centrifuge with robust, corrosion-free Thermo Scientific Fiberlite carbon fiber rotors, an advanced alternative to traditional metal rotors.

[www.thermo.com/rotors](http://www.thermo.com/rotors)
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