

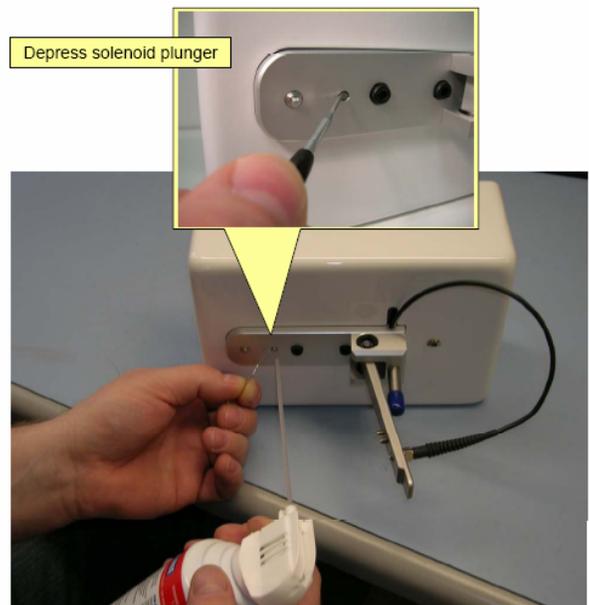
Sample Accuracy Related to Lint Build-Up

The Thermo Scientific NanoDrop™ 1000 Spectrophotometer uses a patented sample retention technology that employs surface tension alone to hold a sample in place. When a measurement is complete, the sample is simply cleaned off of the pedestal with a dry lab wipe. On occasion, the top and bottom pedestals may require “reconditioning”, which involves rubbing a the pedestals aggressively 30-40 times with a lab wipe. Some brands of lab wipes shred during the process and may result in a build-up of lint under the instrument solenoid. **A significant build-up of lint may alter the absorbance pathlength, resulting in erroneous measurements.**

Cleaning Procedure

If a substantial amount of lint builds up under the solenoid, the measurement pathlength may be altered. A warning message will then appear, which suggests that either the instrument is out of calibration or that the column broke during the measurement. If you suspect that the problem is due to excess lint around the solenoid—please follow the cleaning steps below:

1. Lay the instrument on its side with the source fiber (black fiber optic cable) facing up.
2. Open the arm of the sampling mechanism.
3. Using a paperclip or a small screwdriver, manually depress the solenoid plunger and spray compressed air down the solenoid plunger hole. Be sure to keep the can of compressed air upright so as not to spray the propellant into the instrument.



To confirm that the solenoid is free of lint and that the pathlengths are within specifications, run the calibration check software using 2 ul aliquots of the calibration fluid, CF-1. If the instrument fails the calibration check, please save the results as a .JPG and send the file to info@nanodrop.com.

The calibration check software is available at www.nanodrop.com. CF-1 may be purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific or its distributors.

Pedestal Reconditioning using the PR-1 Kit

Use the instrument reconditioning kit, PR-1, as an alternative and rapid means of reconditioning the pedestals when the surface properties have been compromised and liquid columns break during measurement. Using the reconditioning compound significantly reduces the amount of rubbing required to recondition the pedestals, thus decreasing the amount of lint around the solenoid.

For Technical Support, contact us at 302-479-7707 or info@nanodrop.com.