

Keep your fiber engraver's lens clean

In general, the main enemy of any laser optics is dirt or dust. This is even more so with a fiber laser lens - and the mirrors inside the Galvo head.

If the lens is not perfectly clean, the laser's performance is not optimal. You may find that engravings have a jagged edge to them - as if there is a problem with the laser. Even a trace of a fingerprint on the lens will cause havoc.

To avoid having to buy a new lens (and possibly even a Galvo head), follow these simple "rules" :

1. Put on cotton gloves before handling the lens. Lubricants or skin oils can lead to lens contamination. You should avoid touching any coated surface of the optics.
2. On the underside, look for any material that might have blown back onto the lens, or inadvertent fingerprints. Anything sticking to it could lead to a burn spot on the lens, which ruins the optics. Do NOT remove the lens from the head, as the top should never, ever be exposed. This will allow dust particles to settle on the Galvo mirrors as well.
3. If cleaning of the underside is required, lightly dampen a 100 percent cotton swab or a high-quality cotton ball with isopropyl alcohol and gently wipe the lens surface with the damp cotton. DO NOT USE SURGICAL SPIRIT as it contains oil.
4. Alternatively, use a purpose-made lens cleaning swab like our Zeiss swabs.

Check your lens at least once a week, and clean when necessary. Remember, if your lens is damaged because of dirt, there is no warranty.

Moral of the story? You can buy the best equipment in the world, but if you don't take the time to clean your equipment, you are just ensuring that you spend more money. When the machine is not running, you are not making money either.



A fingerprint will cause the engraving to be badly done. Even worse, a fingerprint or speck of dirt will cause the lens to overheat and damage the coating on the lens.



Top of the lens (inside). Never remove the lens from the Galvo head.



Bottom of the lens (outside). Be careful not to get fingerprints or dirt on the lens.



We supply Zeiss cleaning swabs and Microfiber lens cleaners. Lens cleaning wipes : R375 per box of 200
Microfibre cleaning cloths : R325.00 per box of 100
Contact us for pricing on other quantities.

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