



**International
Standard**

ISO 7554-1

**Surgical instruments — Terms,
measuring methods and test
methods —**

**Part 1:
Vocabulary**

*Instruments chirurgicaux — Termes, méthodes de mesurage et
méthodes d'essai —*

Partie 1: Vocabulaire

**First edition
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Sample Document

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Foreword

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A list of all parts in the ISO 7554 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Surgical instruments — Terms, measuring methods and test methods —

Part 1: Vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms for surgical instruments and their components.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 Terms related to general components of surgical instruments

3.1.1

stop pin

mounting part for the restriction of the radius or range of action of the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, tweezers, forceps.

3.1.2

working end

functional jaw part on the *distal end* (3.1.3) of an instrument

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders and forceps.

3.1.3

distal end

end of the instrument facing the patient

3.1.4

cutting edge

part of the *working end* (3.1.2) that severs tissue, organs, ribs, bones and medical supplies

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for scalpels, knives, scissors and shears.

3.1.5

biseau

support surface for the tissue to be severed

3.1.6

blade

anterior functional part for severing or holding

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for retractors and scissors and shears.

3.1.7

leaf spring

element of instruments with *branches* (3.1.9) to open or close the *working end* (3.1.2) using spring force

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders and scissors and shears.

3.1.8

blade back

part of the *blade* (3.1.6) that is opposite to the *cutting edge* (3.1.4)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for scissors and shears.

3.1.9

branch

shank

part of the instrument from the end of the *joint* (3.1.36) to the *proximal end* (3.1.12) or *ring* (3.1.32)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders, scissors and shears.

3.1.10

latch

fixture to hold the instrument in a locked state

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for retractors and forceps.

3.1.11

double leaf spring

multi-part element of instruments with *branches* (3.1.9) to open or close the *working end* (3.1.2) using spring force

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for needle holders, clamps, forceps, scissors and shears.

3.1.12

proximal end

part of the instrument facing the user

Note 1 to entry: This term usually designates the handle of the instrument and is common for clamps, needle holders, tweezers and forceps.

3.1.13

wire cutter notch

groove in a *cutting edge* (3.1.4) to cut wire

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, scissors and shears.

3.1.14

spring

elastic part of the tweezer between mirror and connection part

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for tweezers.

3.1.15

fenestration

recess or opening in the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders and tweezers.

3.1.16

sliding block

protection and guide sleeve

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps.

3.1.17

grip surface

part of the *branch* (3.1.9) used to hold and operate the instrument

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, tweezers, forceps, scissors and shears.

3.1.18

hook

prong

bent or angled tip at the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, retractors, scissors and shears.

3.1.19

horn

protrusion on the *branches* (3.1.9) to prevent slippage of the hand

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for scissors, shears, clamps and forceps.

3.1.20

groove

longitudinal or circular-concave recess of *jaw surfaces* (3.1.29) or handles

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders and tweezers.

3.1.21

club handle

pear shaped *hollow handle* (3.1.23) used to grip and operate the plaster scissors

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for scissors and shears.

3.1.22

fenestrated handle

handle used to pull

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for retractors.

3.1.23

hollow handle

handle used to reduce the weight of the instrument

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for retractors, curettes, raspatories.

3.1.24

knob

blunt element protruding from the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for probes, scissors and shears.

3.1.25

moveable part

part of an instrument with a *ring* (3.1.32) where the joining element (screw or pin) is not fixed

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for forceps and scissors and shears.

3.1.26

rigid part

part of an instrument with a *ring* (3.1.32) where the joining element (screw or pin) is fixed

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for forceps and scissors and shears.

3.1.27

jaw

functional component of *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders and tweezers.

3.1.28

jaw width

width of the functional component of the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, needle holders and tweezers.

3.1.29

jaw surface

part of the *working end* (3.1.2) that grips, holds or severs tissue, organs, medical supplies or medical equipment

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, tweezers and forceps.

3.1.30

jaw serration

serration

profile of the *jaw surfaces* (3.1.29)

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, tweezers and forceps.

3.1.31

mouse tooth

sharp tapered teeth for traumatic gripping of tissue

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, tweezers and forceps.

3.1.32

ring

circular part at the *proximal end* (3.1.12) for entry of the fingers

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, forceps and scissors.

3.1.33

scraper

sharp angled edge at the end of the connection part

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for tweezers and knives.

3.1.34

actuator

moveable component that activates the function in instruments with sliding shaft

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for scissors, shears, bone punches, rongeurs and conchotomes.

3.1.35

lock

component to hold the instrument in a locked state

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for tweezers.

3.1.36

joint

part of the instrument with which the two instrument parts are rotatably connected

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, forceps, scissors and shears.

3.1.37

interlock

ratchet

component to lock the instrument in a defined position

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, needle holders, tweezers and forceps.

3.1.38

set screw

component to variably lock the *working end* ([3.1.2](#))

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for tweezers and forceps.

3.1.39

guiding pin

component that prevents lateral shifting of the *working end* ([3.1.2](#)) from the intended position

Note 1 to entry: This term is common for clamps, forceps, and tweezers.

3.2 Terms related to tweezers and their components

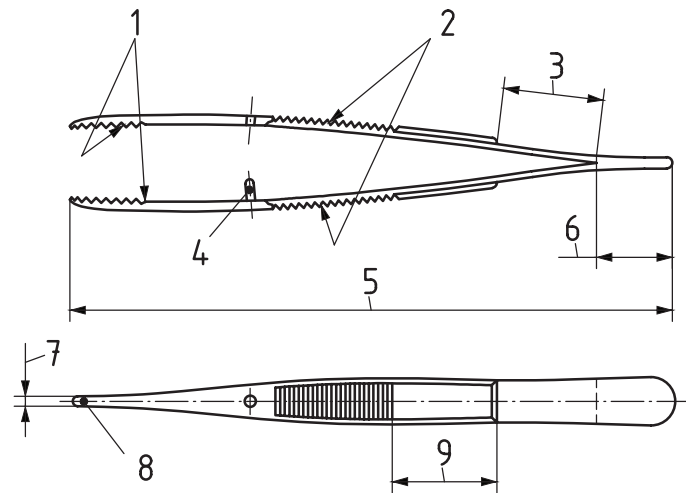
3.2.1 Terms related to types of tweezers

3.2.1.1

tweezers with guiding pin (standard assembly)

instrument with a *jaw* ([3.1.27](#)) that is pushed apart by spring force

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 1](#).



Key

- 1 jaw surface (3.1.29)
- 2 gripping surface
- 3 spring (3.1.14)
- 4 guiding pin (3.1.39)
- 5 leg
- 6 connection part
- 7 jaw width (3.1.28)
- 8 jaw (3.1.27)
- 9 mirror

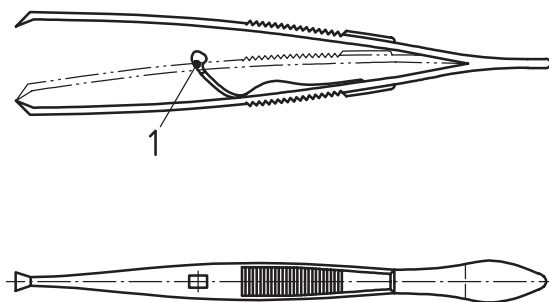
Figure 1 — Tweezers with guiding pin

3.2.1.2

tweezers with spring lock

instrument with a jaw (3.1.27) that is pushed apart by spring force and that can be locked in a defined position with a lock (3.1.35) which automatically locks when a defined jaw closure position is reached

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 2](#).



Key

- 1 lock (3.1.35)

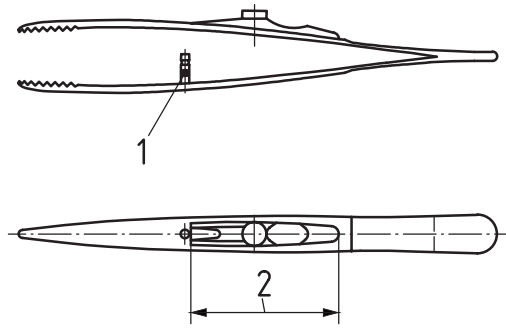
Figure 2 — Tweezers with spring lock

3.2.1.3

tweezers with pin lock

instrument with a jaw (3.1.27) that is pushed apart by spring force and that can be locked manually in a defined position with a slider

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 3](#).



Key

- 1 pin
- 2 lock (3.1.35)

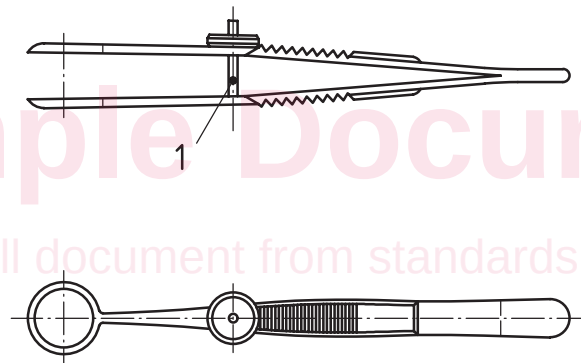
Figure 3 — Tweezers with pin lock

3.2.1.4

tweezers with set screw

instrument with a *jaw* (3.1.27) that is pushed apart by spring force and that can be locked by being pressed together with a *set screw* (3.1.38)

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 4](#).



Key

- 1 set screw (3.1.38)

Figure 4 — Tweezers with set screw

3.2.2 Terms related to leg forms of tweezers

3.2.2.1

tweezers with straight legs

tweezers with a base line that is a straight line in relation to the base line of the instrument

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 5](#).

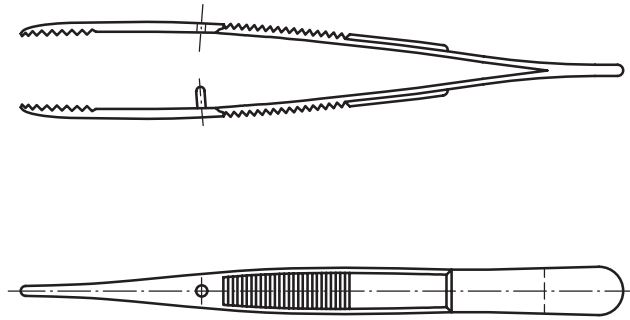


Figure 5 — Straight legs

3.2.2.2

tweezers with bent legs

tweezers with slightly bent legs

tweezers with a base line that is bent sideways in relation to the base line of the instrument

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 6](#).



Figure 6 — Bent, slightly bent legs

3.2.2.3

tweezers with double-bent legs

tweezers with a base line that is bent sideways twice in relation to the base line of the instrument

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 7](#).



Figure 7 — Double bent legs

3.2.2.4

tweezers with knee-angled legs

tweezers with knee-bent legs

tweezers with a base line that is knee-bent in relation to the base line of the instrument

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 8](#).

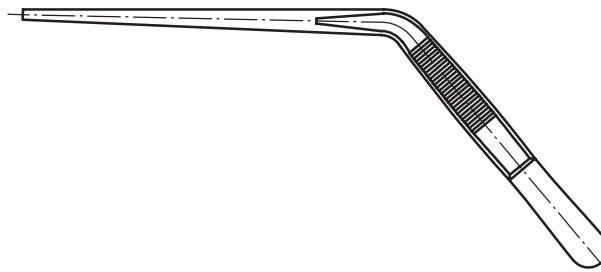


Figure 8 — Knee-angled, knee-bent legs

3.2.2.5

tweezers with bayonet-shaped legs

tweezers with a special shape that allows surgeons to work without blocking their own line of view

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 9](#).

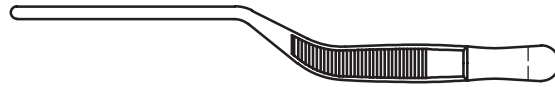


Figure 9 — Bayonet-shaped legs

3.2.2.6

tweezers with crossed legs

tweezers with special type of legs, where the spring force holds the closed position

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 10](#).

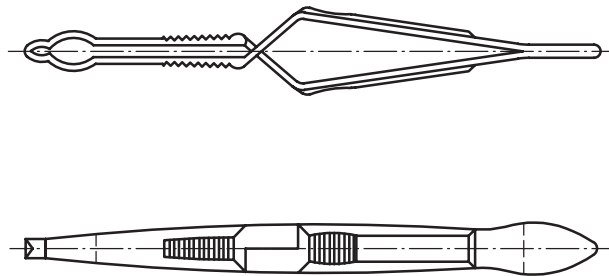


Figure 10 — Crossed legs

3.2.3 Terms related to jaw types of tweezers

3.2.3.1

smooth jaws

jaws without *serration* ([3.1.30](#)) or teeth on the *jaw surface* ([3.1.29](#))

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 11](#).

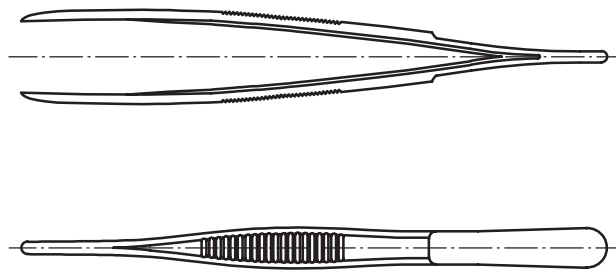


Figure 11 — Smooth anatomical jaw

3.2.3.2

smooth surgical jaws

jaws without *serration* ([3.1.30](#)) but with a *mouse tooth* ([3.1.31](#)) on the *jaw surface* ([3.1.29](#))

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 12](#).

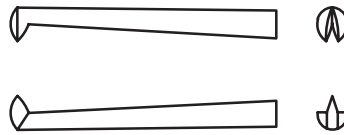


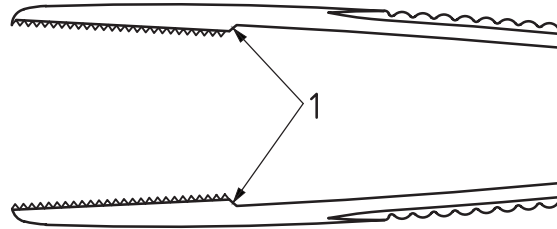
Figure 12 — Smooth surgical jaws with mouse tooth on the jaw surface

3.2.3.3

plateau

partial elevated grasping surface at the *working end* (3.1.2)

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 13](#).



Key

1 plateau

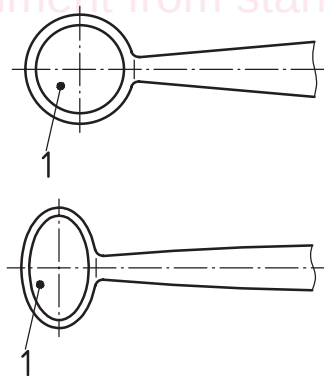
Figure 13 — Plateau

3.2.3.4

anatomical, windowed, round or oval jaws

jaws with a special geometry, to grasp larger areas of tissue securely

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 14](#).



Key

1 window

From top to bottom: round; oval.

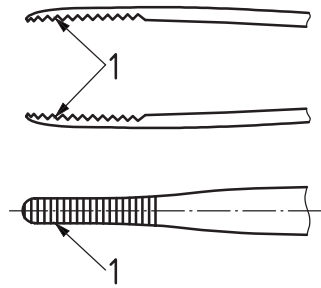
Figure 14 — Anatomical windowed jaws

3.2.3.5

serrated, anatomical jaw

<tweezers>jaws with a specific cross-serrated pattern

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 15](#).



Key

1 serration (3.1.30)

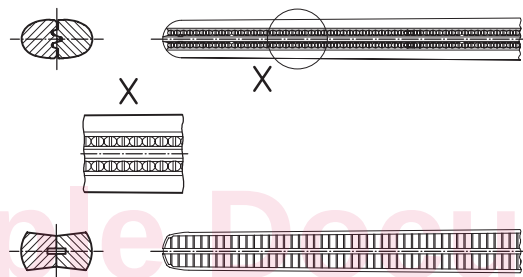
Figure 15 — Serrated, anatomical jaws

3.2.3.6

serrated, atraumatic jaws

jaws with a specific toothed pattern designed to grasp fragile tissues securely without causing damage

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 16](#).



From top to bottom: type “De Bakey”; type “Cooley”.

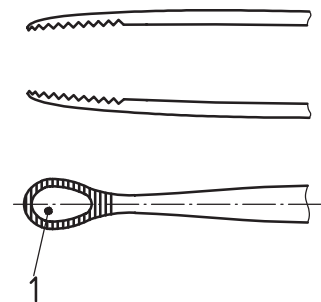
Figure 16 — Serrated, atraumatic jaws

3.2.3.7

serrated, windowed jaws

oval jaws with cross-serrated surface and window to grasp tissue securely

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 17](#).



Key

1 window

Figure 17 — Serrated, windowed jaws