

ECHELON FLEX™ Powered & Powered Plus Staplers

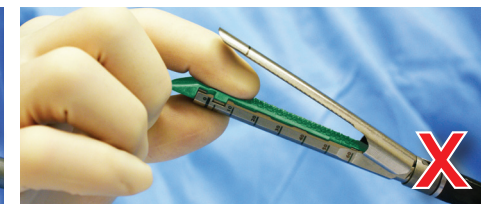
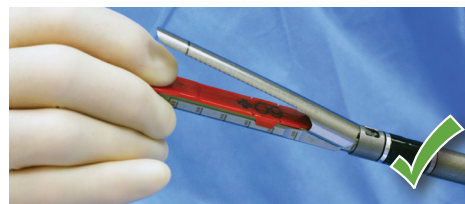
Optimized Device Performance Guide

Loading the device

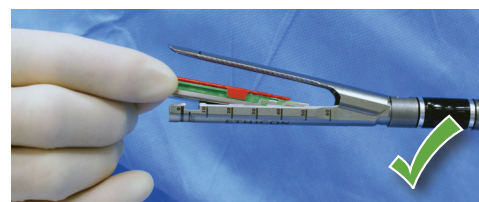
Proper reload selection: Tissue thickness should be carefully evaluated prior to using the instrument. Refer to the **Reload Product Codes Chart**, located in the Instructions for Use, for proper reload selection. Selection of the appropriate staple reload should be based upon the combined thickness of both the tissue and the staple line reinforcement material.



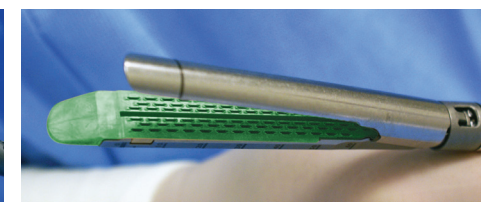
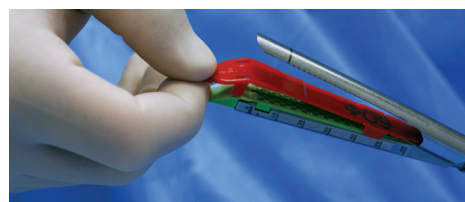
1. Verify that the reload size matches the instrument size being used (e.g. use 60mm reload with 60mm stapler).



2. Ensure the staple retaining cap is present during loading to minimize the potential for premature sled movement, which could lead to inadvertent lockout.

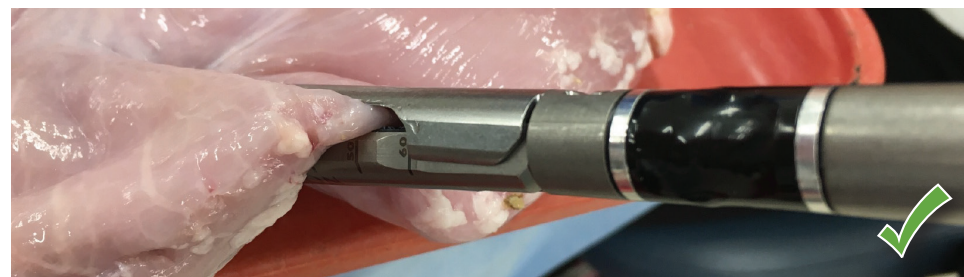


3. Insert the reload by sliding it against the bottom of the reload jaw until the stapler alignment tab stops in the reload alignment slot of the jaw. Positioning the reload at the bottom of the reload jaw could prevent inadvertent sled movement and lockout.



4. Remove the staple retaining cap by lifting it straight up and discard.
5. Observe the surface of the new reload to ensure no drivers are visible and that the reload lies flat in the jaw channel.

Device closure



1. Position the instrument around the tissue to be stapled. When closing the device, ensure that the tissue lies flat and is positioned properly between the jaws. Any “bunching” of tissue along the reload, particularly in the crotch of the jaws, may result in an incomplete staple line or inadvertent lockout. Holding the jaws in place for 15 seconds after closing and prior to firing may result in better compression and staple formation.

For complete product details, see Instructions for Use.

Firing the device



1. Fire the instrument by pulling the firing trigger. Continue to depress the trigger until the motor stops. To complete the firing sequence, release the firing trigger to automatically return the knife to the home position.

Note: Alternatively, for enhanced tissue compression when using the ECHELON FLEX™ Powered Plus Stapler, the user may pulse the firing trigger throughout the firing cycle until the transection is completed. It is recommended that the pulsing technique not be initiated until after the knife blade indicator has moved into the closed bottom channel and is no longer visible (see photos below) to minimize potential of inadvertent lockout.



Knife blade is visible



Knife blade not visible

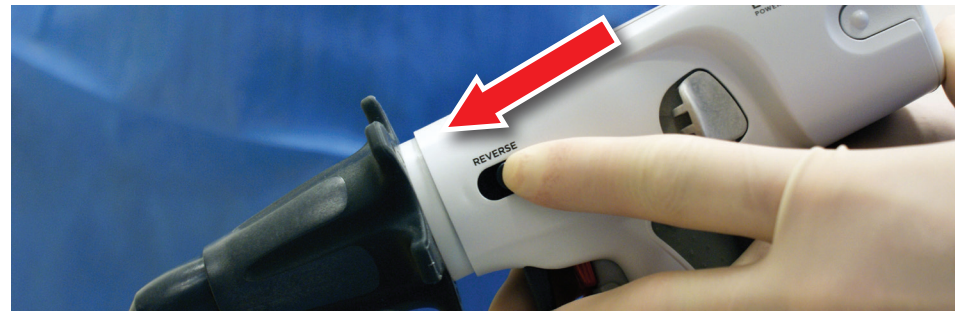
Opening the jaws



1. Ensure the knife is in the home position by observing the knife blade indicator under the cartridge jaw.
2. To open the jaws, first squeeze the closing trigger, and then simultaneously push the anvil release button on the side of the device. Maintaining pressure on the anvil release button, slowly release the closing trigger.

Stapler lockout

Under certain circumstances the stapler will lock out, including instances where there is no reload, an incorrect reload or a used reload. At any time, if the knife reverse switch does not return the knife to the home position and the jaws will not open:



1. **Reverse:** Slide the knife reverse switch forward.



2. **Battery:** Remove and re-install the battery to check that it is securely installed and that the device has power.

3. **Reverse:** See Step 1.



4. **Manual override:** If the knife does not return, use the manual override. First, remove the access panel labeled "Manual Override" on the top of the handle. Move the lever FORWARD AND BACKWARD until it can no longer be moved. The forward and backward movement of the lever may require multiple cycles and should be completed until the knife blade is confirmed to be in the home position.

Note: After the manual override is used, the device becomes nonfunctional.