MICROMANIPULATION TOOLS AND MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES

Ergonomic Solution	Features	Procurement
Fisher brand* Dissecting Forceps Reverse Action	Sharp pointed tips are normally closed Squeeze handles firmly to open tips Can be sterilized by EtO/gamma radiation Latex free Autoclavable Rockwell hardness: 45 HRC	BearBuy (SciQuest) Login to Blu Click "Finance" Tab Click "Fisher UCOP" <u>Search</u> : Part# 08906
Low force forceps	Reduces force required to vhold specimens in forceps while processing	Surgipath DI15585 5 1/2 inch forceps
Precision tweezers with foam/molded grips	Molded and foam grips for tweezers manufactured by Excelta.	BearBuy (SciQuest) Login to Blu Click "Finance" Tab Click "Fisher UCOP" <u>Search</u> : Part# NC9664342
Thermo plastic pellets	Low-temperature thermoplastic pellets mold together quickly and easily to adapt handles, splints and equipment. The pellets can be used to build up handles. When heated to 140 degrees F (60 degree C), pellets soften quickly and can be formed into a mass that can be molded and remolded as needed. Heat in water, on a heating plate or in a microwave oven. The thermoplastic will stick to most porous surfaces.	North Coast Medical 1#: NC325113 #: NC32513
Alternative Handle for Paint Brush	Insert the end of a paintbrush or feather into Plastizote Tubing to create an alternative way to grip and angle the tool. Make sure the length of the tubing is long enough for your hand size. Plastizote Tubing is a durable, white, closed cell plastic-	NC Medical #NC35033

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1	basedfoam that is lightweight and easy to hold. This tubing will not absorb water.	
Plastizote Tubing		
Cylindrical foam to enlarge dissecting needle	Cylindrical Foam is a heavy and dense foam that provides great stability and cushioning. It can be cut lengthwise to wrap around a tool to increase the grip size, thus reducing pinch grips.	NC Medical #NC35002
Alternative Handle for Paintbrush	Tape a ¾ or 1-inch plastic cable clamp, depending on your finger size, onto the middle of the paintbrush. Insert your index finger inside of the cable clamp so you can more easily maneuver the brush. Plastic cable clamps can be purchased at most hardware stores or at the website identified in the right column. For a small to medium index finger size order the ¾" in. and for a larger index finger order the I in. clamp. This type of handle is useful when needing to move anesthetized	Wiring Products Loom and cable clamps #CC-2512 – ¾ in. #CC-2516 – 1 in.
tp://uhs.berkeley.edu/facstaff/ergonomics/lab/micromanipulation.sh	fruit flies while looking at them underneath the microscope. To make a handle modification, attach the rectangular object (CO2 pad) to a 1/8-inch thick piece of plastic with Velcro (place	

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<image/> <image/>	the Velcro underneath the CO2 pad so it can be connected to the top of the plastic). Plastic can be custom-cut at Tap Plastics in El Cerrito (525-3508). When measuring for the plastic, allow 3-inches extra in length to attach the handle. A handle such as a knob, foam, cable clamp or T pipe molding can be attached to the outer 3-inches of the plastic piece with rubber cement. Make sure the handle will encourage using a neutral hand posture with a minimal amount of gripping force.	
	Enlarge the grip of the forceps by cutting a wine or champagne cork in half and then take one of the cut sections and cut it in half the long way. Use silicone to adhere the two halves to the outside of the forceps.	
Finlarge forceps to reduce pinch grip		