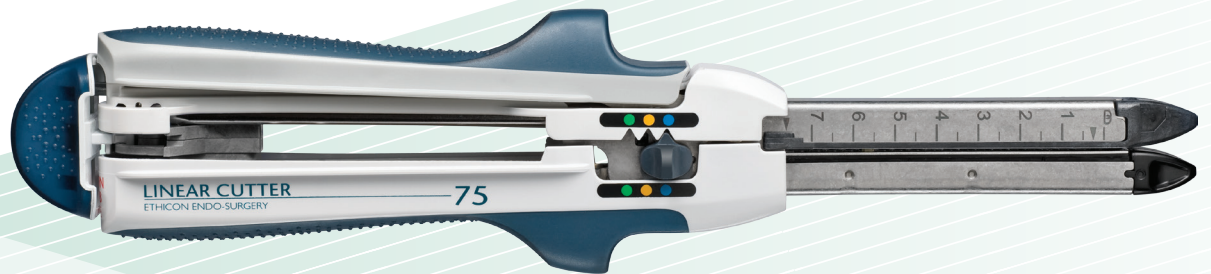


ETHICON Linear Cutter^{*}

Steps to Use



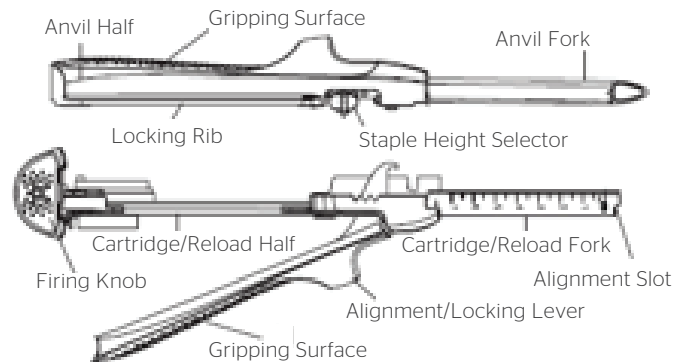
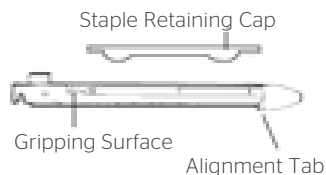
Steps to Use

Models available: (55mm, 75mm)

NTLC55, NTL75

Reloads available:

SR55, SR75

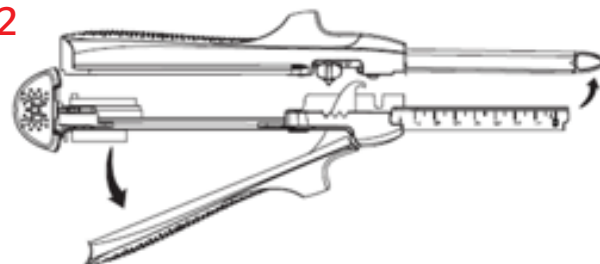


Verify compatibility of all instruments and accessories prior to using the instrument. For complete product details, see Instructions for Use.

1

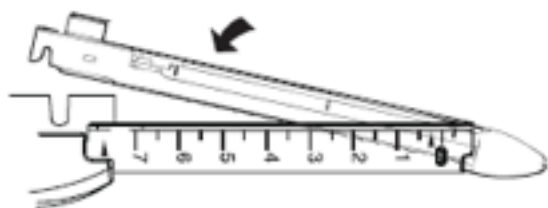
Using sterile technique, remove the instrument from the package. To avoid damage, do not flip the Cartridge/Reload into the sterile field.

2



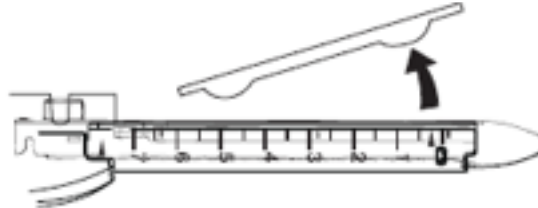
If instrument is not separated into halves, separate instrument by completely disengaging the Alignment/Locking Lever.

3



Load the instrument by inserting the selectable Cartridge/Reload by placing the alignment tabs into the alignment slots and pivoting the selectable Cartridge/Reload onto the Cartridge/Reload Fork. Snap the Cartridge/Reload into position.

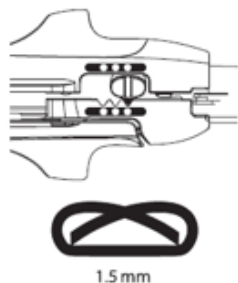
4



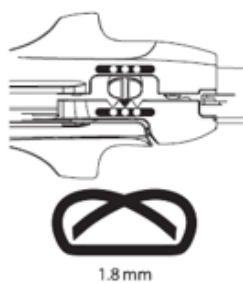
Remove Staple Retaining Cap by grasping the edge of the Staple Retaining Cap and lift straight up from the Cartridge/Reload. Discard the Staple Retaining Cap.

Note: The Staple Retaining Cap ensures proper staple orientation and protects the staple leg points during shipping and transportation.

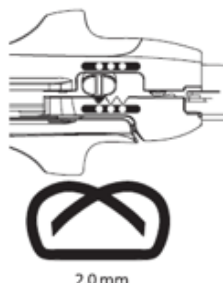
5



1.5 mm



1.8 mm



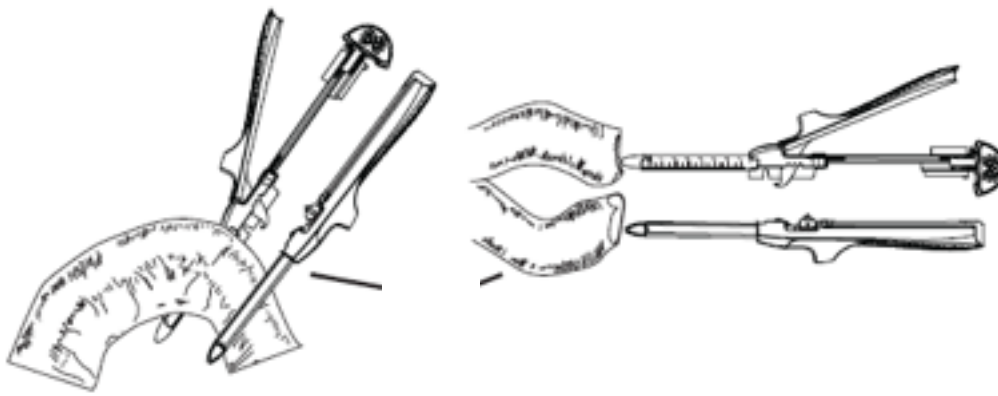
2.0 mm

Prior to placing instrument across the tissue, select the desired closed staple height. In order to select the desired staple height, push the Staple Height Selector so that it is aligned with desired color indicator, Blue 1.5 mm, Gold 1.8 mm or Green 2.0 mm. If tissue cannot be comfortably compressed to the closed staple height, or easily compresses to less than the closed staple height, either the setting or the tissue is contraindicated for the selected staple size or setting.

CAUTION: Careful consideration should be given to any pre-surgical treatment the patient may have undergone, which may require alterations to surgical technique or alternative surgical procedures.

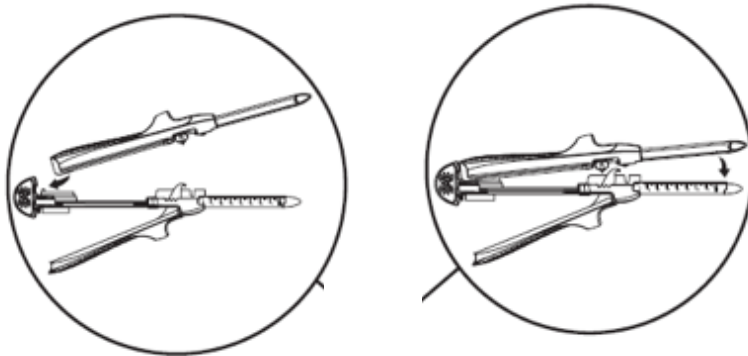
CAUTION: Tissue thickness should be carefully evaluated before firing any stapler.

6



Place the instrument across the tissue for transection or into the lumen to form an anastomosis.

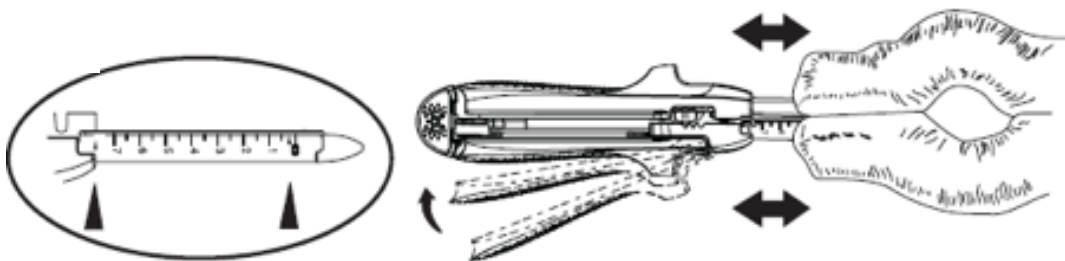
7



With the Alignment/Locking Lever in the completely opened position, join the instrument halves together by aligning from either the front, center, or back of the instrument. To adjust tissue on the forks before firing, move the Alignment/Locking Lever to the intermediate position. This allows maneuvering of the tissue while the instrument halves are joined.

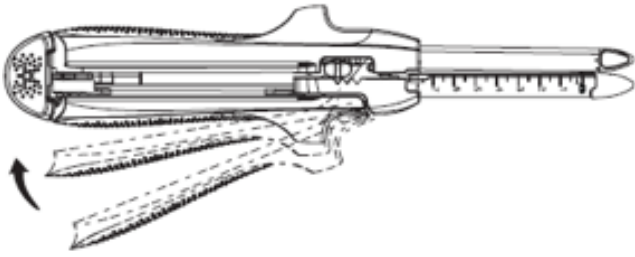
Note: Adjusting tissue is optional. The Alignment/Locking Lever may be moved from the completely opened to the completely closed position.

CAUTION: Ensure that the tissue lies flat between the forks. Any “bunching” of tissue along the reload or scale may result in an incomplete staple line. Tissue to be transected must be located between the arrows marked on the instrument jaw. Any tissue located outside of the arrows is out of the stapling range.



CAUTION: When positioning the device on the application site, ensure that no obstructions such as clips, stents, guide wires, and etc., are within the instrument anvils. Firing over an obstruction may result in incomplete cutting action and/or improperly formed staples.

8

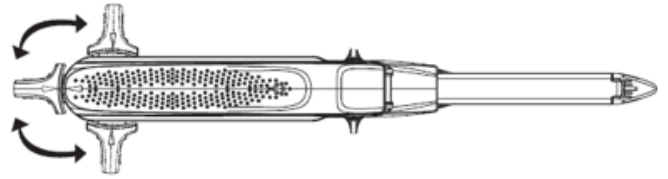


Ensure that the Cartridge/Reload Fork and the Anvil Fork are aligned. Close the Alignment/Locking Lever completely when the tissue is properly in place.

Note: When firing across thick tissue, holding the jaws in place for 15 seconds after closing and prior to firing may result in better compression and staple formation.

CAUTION: Attempting to force the Locking Lever to complete the closing stroke with too much tissue or thickened tissue may result in poor staple formation with the loss of staple line integrity and subsequent leakage, disruption, or poor healing. In addition, instrument damage or failure may result.

9



With the instrument closed, the Firing Knob is rotated to either side of instrument.

Note: In its pre-firing position, the Firing Knob cannot be rotated from its pre-firing position unless the Alignment/Locking Lever is engaged.

CAUTION: Do not forcibly move the Firing Knob when it is in the pre-firing position and/or the Alignment/Locking Lever is not engaged, as this action may prevent the instrument from firing properly.

CAUTION: When using a tissue or staple line buttressing material, the instructions of the manufacturer of the buttress material should be followed. Selection of the appropriate staple Cartridge/Reload should be based upon the combined thicknesses of both the tissue and the staple line buttressing materials.

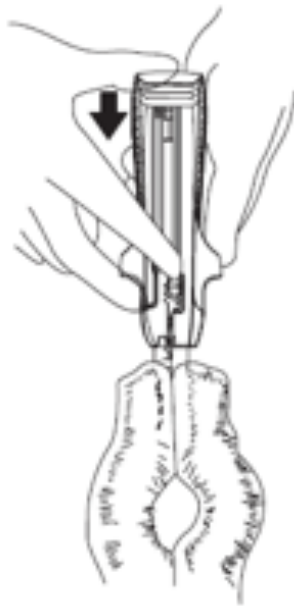
10

To fire the Linear Cutter, place the thumb on the Firing Knob and two fingers on the shoulders of the Linear Cutter. Fire the instrument by pushing the Firing Knob completely forward.

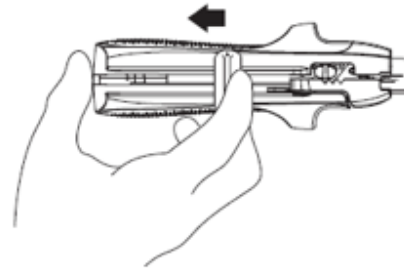
Note: It is possible to utilize the thumb or palm of hand to fire the instrument.

Note: Crossing of staple lines may shorten the life of the instrument.

CAUTION: The firing stroke must be completed. Do not partially fire the instrument. Incomplete firing can result in malformed staples, incomplete cut line, bleeding, and leakage from the staple line and/or difficulty removing the device.

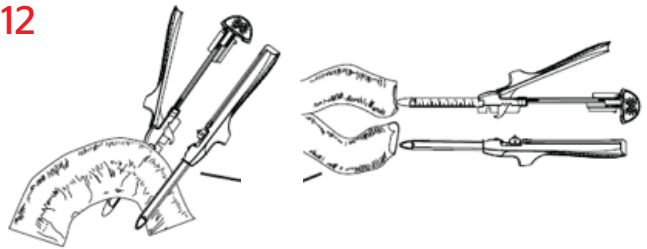


11



Completely return the Firing Knob to the original pre-firing, "RETURN KNOB HERE" position.

12



Separate the instrument halves by opening the Alignment/Locking Lever and remove the instrument from the patient.

Reloading the Instrument

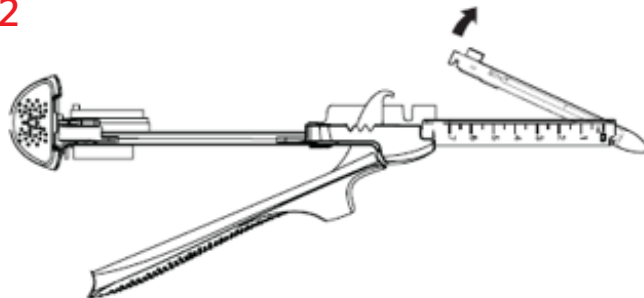
1



If Firing Knob is not in "RETURN KNOB HERE" position, return the Firing Knob to the original prefiring, "RETURN KNOB HERE" position.

Note: The Cartridge cannot be inserted unless the Firing Knob is in its original position.

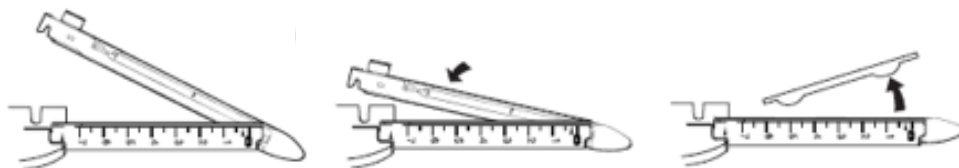
2



Separate the instrument halves by pulling open the Alignment/Locking Lever. Pull upward on the Gripping Surface and unsnap the used Cartridge from the Cartridge Fork. Discard the used Cartridge.

CAUTION: Prior to reloading the instrument, rinse the Anvil and Cartridge/Reload Jaw in sterile solution and then wipe the Anvil Fork and Cartridge Fork to clear any formed but unused staples from the instrument. Do not use the instrument until it has been visually inspected to confirm there are no staples on the Anvil and Cartridge/Reload Jaw.

3



Examine the new Cartridge for the presence of a Staple Retaining Cap. If the Retaining Cap is not in place, discard the Cartridge. Insert the new Cartridge by placing the Alignment Tabs into the Alignment Slots and pivoting the Cartridge into the Cartridge Fork. Snap the Cartridge into position. Remove the Staple Retaining Cap and discard.

CAUTION: After reloading, observe the surface of the new Cartridge. If the colored staple drivers are visible, replace with another Reload. The staple drivers are used to push the staples out of the pocket, through the tissue to be stapled and into the Forming Anvil.

4

The instrument is now reloaded and ready for use.