

Connector Care Quick Reference Card

Proper connector care and connection techniques are critical for accurate, repeatable measurements, and for extending the life of your devices.

Prior to making connections, be sure to read all of the connector care information provided with your product.

See the reverse side of this card for quick reference tips on proper connector care.



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Principles of Microwave Connector Care

Quick Reference Card

Handling and Storage

Do

- Keep connectors clean
- Extend sleeve or connector nut
- Use plastic end caps during storage

Do Not

- Touch mating-plane surfaces
- Set connectors contact-end down

Visual Inspection

Do

- Inspect all connectors carefully before every connection
- Look for metal particles, scratches, and dents

Do Not

- Use a damaged connector - ever

Connector Cleaning

Do

- Try compressed air first
- Use isopropyl alcohol¹
- Clean connector threads

Do Not

- Use any abrasives
- Get liquid into plastic support beads

Gaging Connectors

Do

- Clean and zero the gage before use
- Use the correct gage type
- Use correct end of calibration block
- Gage all connectors before first use

Do Not

- Use an out-of-spec connector

Making Connections

Do

- Align connectors carefully
- Make preliminary connection lightly
- Turn only the connector nut
- Use a torque wrench for final connect

Do Not

- Apply bending force to connection
- Overtighten preliminary connection
- Twist or screw any connection
- Tighten past torque wrench "break" point

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¹ Use isopropyl alcohol in a well-ventilated area, allowing adequate time for moist alcohol to evaporate and fumes to disperse prior to energizing equipment.