

Lab Animal Micro Tattoo System

Product No. 15102

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please follow these instructions in order to obtain the best results.

Items required: Micro tattoo forceps, green tattoo paste (ink), and sterile hypodermic needles with plastic end.

1. Determine the size of the needle to use with the instrument.
Recommended sizes:
Adult Mice 27G x ½”
Young Mice 30G x ½”
Rats & Others 25G x 5/8”
2. Before starting, determine the grid pattern and location that will be used (see *Figure 1* on following page).
3. Disinfect the needle with alcohol. Insert the needle into one side of the instrument (you may need to twist it slightly so that it will hold in place).
4. The opposite side of the instrument (from where the needle is inserted) is considered the reservoir for the ink. You will need to fill the reservoir with the tattoo paste (ink) that is provided. It is recommended to use a sterile syringe to fill the reservoir. **The instructions provided on the tube of the paste (ink) are not suitable or recommended for this application and system.**
5. The animal should be properly restrained.
6. Before tattooing the chosen area, you must squeeze the instrument ends together so that the needle goes into the reservoir and acquires some paste (ink).
7. Squeeze the instrument ends together on the area chosen for tattooing (it is not necessary to penetrate completely through the area, but it is an option). If you do decide to penetrate completely through, the needle will enter the reservoir of paste (ink) on the opposite side. Once released, it will draw additional paste (ink) back through the area that is being tattooed.
8. After use, the instrument should be thoroughly cleaned.

TIPS ON FILLING THE RESERVOIR:

- You can fill the reservoir directly with a syringe
or
- If you have plastic pipette tips, cut the smallest end of the tip off. Using the tip you just cut off, cut a small hole at the end for the paste (ink) to be able to flow through (you do not want the hole to be very large). You have just made a reusable and interchangeable reservoir.
- You can make and fill more than one of the reusable reservoirs in advance. When one is empty, you need only to remove it and replace it with a full container. This method helps avoid having to clean the tool as often and makes the procedure much faster and cleaner.

TIPS ON THE TATTOO PASTE (INK):

- The tattoo paste (ink) can be sterilized. It must first be removed from the tube. It has been tested in an autoclave at a temperature of 121°C. The tattoo paste (ink) will not lose any of its function or color.
- The tattoo paste (ink) is PERMANENT. Once it is in the skin, it cannot be removed.

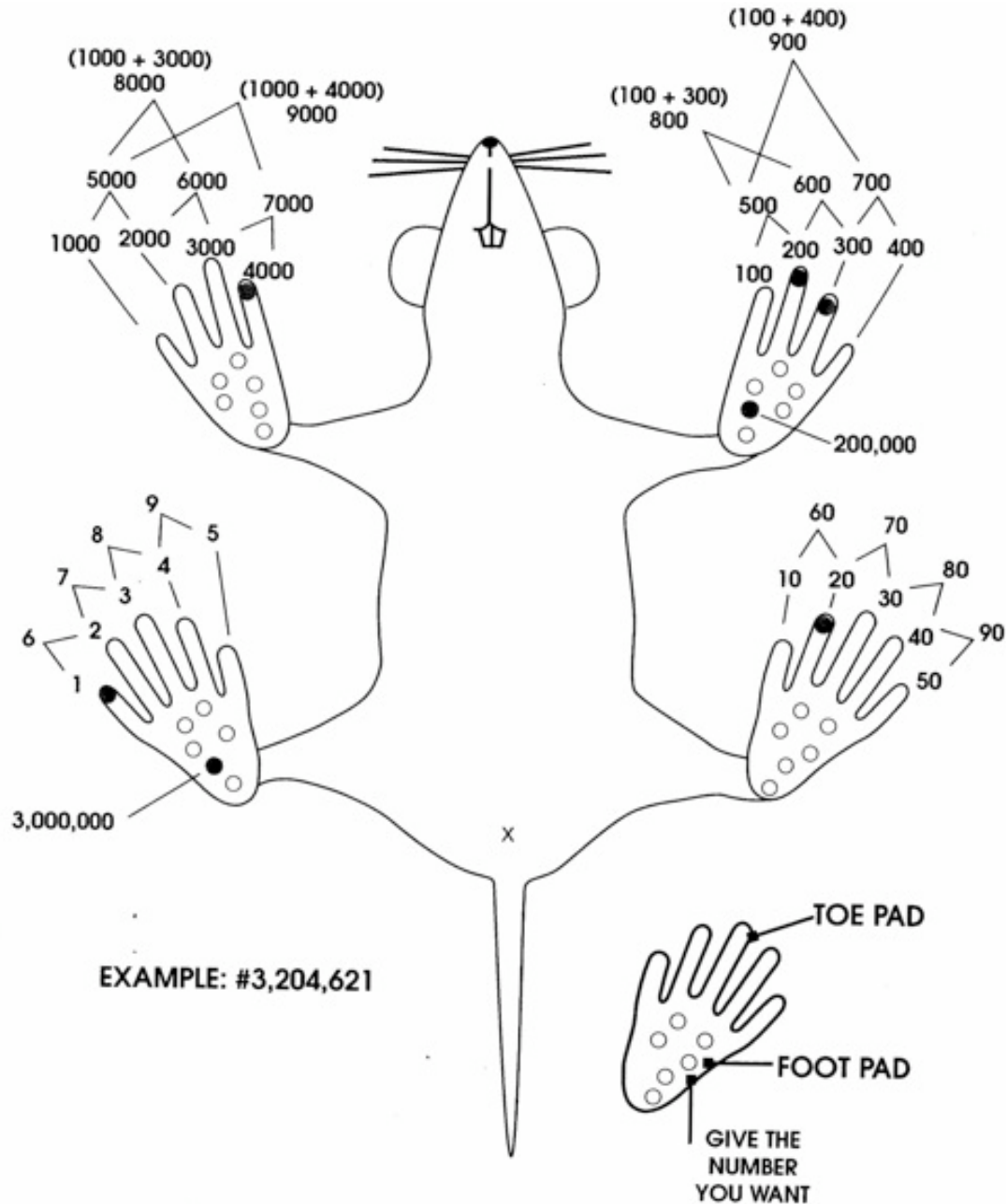


Figure 1: Example Tattoo ID Diagram