

Re: microtome

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.techniques.microscopy/2005-04/msg00124.html>

- *From:* "Kevin Cunningham" <smskjd@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 24 Apr 2005 13:53:26 GMT
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"Aaron" <nghy@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:t7fm61pe2fn9pai715agh7ff0qri3ee9pf@xxxxxxxxxxxx

> Used professional microtomes are available regularly on eBay for
> reasonable prices. AO 820 microtomes routinely go for about \$100.
> The same for traditional microtome blades. Used high quality blades
> run \$10-\$15 with handles and cases. You will need to sharpen them up,
> but they would be perfect for a hand held microtome. Search eBay for
> "microtome"

>
> If you are really tight for money to invest in this project, plane
> blades used in regular carpentry wood planes can be sharpened to a
> very fine edge and used to cut quite thin sections with the simple
> bench mounted microtomes which can be built from a few dollars worth
> of off-the-shelf hardware. Also standard shaving razor blades have
> been adapted.

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> Check out these articles form the Micscape website library.

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> <http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/indexmag.html?http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/art97b/microt.html>

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> <http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/indexmag.html?http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/artapr04/wdslicera.htm>

>
> Aaron

Aaron, yet another good post! The 820 ("the Gray Lady") is a tough old microtome. Lubricate it with the right stuff and use a good blade and they just keep on working. You can get the lubricants from a Leica dealer. Buy the blades either disposable or non-disposable from Leica or someone really knowledgeable. Blades vary by length and blade angle. Some techniques use one and other techniques use another.

Kevin Cunningham
SMS

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