## **Cutting Metal Capillary Tubing**

Metal capillary tubing is cut by scoring the tubing wall with the edge of a sharp file or a ceramic scoring wafer (cat.# 20116), making sure not to cut completely through the column wall. Wipe off the tubing to remove any filings. Bend the tubing away from the score. Once the score opens, bend the tubing back toward the score until it snaps into two pieces. The roundness of the tubing should be preserved. If the hole is not round or there is a burr on the tubing, try the procedure again.

We do not recommend using high speed wheels or grinders to cut the metal tubing because they may introduce metal filings into the tubing and/or create very high temperatures that may destroy the polymer near the cut.

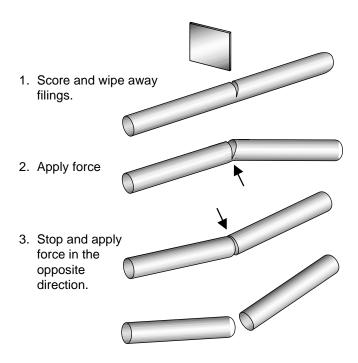
## **CAUTION!** Read before installing the metal column.

Exert caution when using MXT® columns in gas chromatographs with electrically energized detector jets or orifices. MXT® columns, like aluminum clad fused silica, will conduct electricity and cause a short if the end of the column is inserted too far into the detector. Indications of a detector short are: absence of a detector signal, detector polarity faults, or blown fuses.

This problem is prevalent with Varian, Perkin-Elmer, and Shimadzu FIDs since they do not ground the detector jet to the frame. This problem will not occur with Agilent GCs since their FID jets are grounded. Varian has developed a special ceramic jet that should be used with MXT® columns. Order this FID jet (part# 02-001938-00) directly from Varian.

We recommend that the electrometer be turned off when installing MXT® columns in any GC with an ungrounded jet. Insert the column end until it touches the jet tip, then pull it back approximately 5mm. Then, turn on the electrometer and check the signal level to make sure it is in the range specified by your instrument manufacturer.

## **Cutting Metal Capillary Tubing**



4. Tubing should break cleanly.

Call Technical Service at 800-356-1688 or 814-353-1300, ext. 4 (or your local Restek representative) if you have any questions about this product or any other Restek product.





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