

PEARLS Reducing Cross-Contamination from Spools

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Wire and elastomeric chain spools stored in drawers are a source of cross-contamination in the orthodontic office. A homemade spool dispenser can be kept on a countertop to reduce handling.

Find a container of the desired shape, and pour in a mixture of plaster of paris, water, and food coloring. Stick an old marking pen or chopstick into the center of the plaster (Fig. A); the height can vary depending on how many spools are to be stored (Fig. B). □

FIGURES

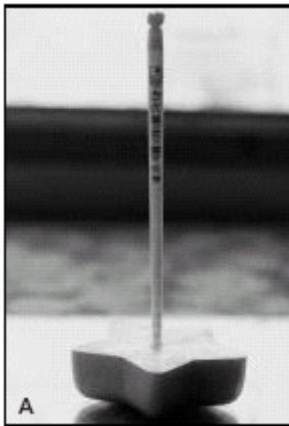


Fig. A

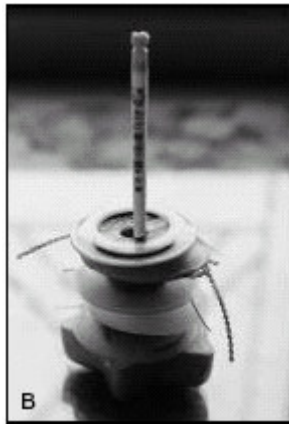


Fig. B