

WRAPPED RULES

HEALTHCARE STORAGE EXPERT

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Dustin Patterson | Regional Sales Manager
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Beyond Clean Healthcare Storage Expert:

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While there are a few options for storing sterilized instrumentation, the most common is blue wrapped instrument sets. While blue wrap is easy to use and can accommodate almost any size item, it can be prone to ripping, tearing and contamination, so let's discuss some ways to help ensure the integrity of wrapped instrument sets.

Location, Location, Location

Sterile storage shelving should be placed in a clean, dry area dedicated to sterile storage. The storage room should have minimal foot traffic and be climate controlled. According to the ANSI-AAMI ST97 2017 guidelines, wrapped instrument sets must be stored 8"-10" above the floor, at least 18" from the ceiling or sprinkler heads, and 2" from outside walls to protect from moisture and debris. If your location does not have the space for a dedicated sterile storage, use covered or enclosed racks.

Shelving Options

There are several kinds of shelving that can be leveraged for sterile storage. Look for shelving units with smooth shelves and rounded edges that will not rip or tear wrapped instrument sets. This could be stainless steel shelves, chrome plated wire shelving with a rounded edge, or shelving that accommodates transport baskets where wrapped instruments don't have to touch the shelf at all. Wrapped instrument sets should not be stacked on top of each other and should have enough space between them to ensure sufficient airflow.

Be sure to consult the ST97 guidelines as well as your facility's specific guidelines to ensure compliance and patient safety.

Have more healthcare storage questions? Contact Dustin at: dustin.patterson@logiquip.net

Beyond Clean Healthcare Storage Expert Biography:

DUSTIN PATTERSON

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Dustin Patterson is currently the Mid-West Regional Sales Manager with Logiquip Healthcare Storage Solutions, a leading provider of high-quality, future focused storage systems designed exclusively for use in the healthcare environment. Logiquip is based out of Kalamazoo, MI and has served healthcare organizations across the US for 30 years. Dustin brings over 12 years of experience in space planning and healthcare storage. He has acted on behalf of LogiQuip as the vendor liaison to the AHRMM Wisconsin Chapter, a leading membership group for healthcare supply chain professionals. Working closely with many hospitals and surgery centers, Dustin has developed tailored solutions using a mix of best practices, Lean principles, and industry-leading storage equipment. He has also worked with many Sterile Processing Departments to maximize storage spaces, balancing trade-offs between high-capacity storage layouts and workflow efficiencies.

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