END OF THE DAY

Shut Down Your Microscope Right.

A quick reference for leaving the microscope ready for tomorrow.

4

Thirty seconds before you leave

Dust, dried oil, and a hot lamp do their damage overnight. Four quick steps at the end of the day keep tomorrow's first slide clean and sharp, and keep small problems from becoming service calls.

SCAN FOR VIDEO

Do This

Take the slide off
Nothing left on the stage overnight.

Blot the oil while it's wet
Lens paper on the 100x and the slide. Wet oil wipes right off.

Click the lowest power into place
Leave the 4x in the light path and lower the stage.

Turn the light all the way down, then off
Easier on the bulb every time it turns on.

Cover it once the lamp is cool
A dust cover keeps the optics clean overnight.

Avoid This

Leaving oil on the lens
Dried oil needs special solvents and care. That's a service call.

Leaving the 100x in place
It sits closest to the stage and is the easiest to bump.

Switching off at full brightness
The sudden surge is hard on the bulb.

Covering a hot lamp
Let it cool first so heat isn't trapped under the cover.

Taking the eyepieces out
Leave them in so dust can't get into the tubes.

THE HABIT, EVERY DAY

STEP 1
Slide off, oil off

STEP 2
Lowest power in place

STEP 3
Light down, then off

STEP 4
Cover it

Still hazy in the morning? We'll take it from there.

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