

User instructions

Stereo microscope

KERN

OSF-5

OSF 522, OSF 523, OSF 524
OSF 525, OSF 526, OSF 527

Version 1.0
01/2015





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1 Before use

1.1 General notes

You must open the packaging carefully, to make sure that none of the accessories in the packaging fall on the floor and get broken.

In general, microscopes should always be handled carefully because they are sensitive precision instruments. When using or transporting the microscope it is particularly important to avoid abrupt movements, as this may damage the optical components.

You should also avoid getting dirt or finger prints on the lens surface, because in most cases this will reduce image clarity.

To maintain the performance of the microscope, it must never be disassembled. So components such as lenses and other optical elements should be left as they were before use. Also the electrical parts in the base of the device must not be tampered with, as in this area there is an additional risk of triggering an electric shock.

1.2 Notes on the electrical system (OSF 523, OSF 525, OSF 527)

Before connecting to a mains power supply, you must make sure that you are using the correct input voltage. The information to select the correct mains cable is located on each device, on the rear of the product directly above the connection socket. You must comply with this information. If you do not comply with these specifications, then fires or other damage to the device could occur.

The main switch must also be switched off before the mains cable is connected. In this way you will avoid triggering an electric shock.

If you are using an extension cable, then the mains cable you use must be earthed.

If the original fuse should blow, it must only be replaced by an appropriate fuse. Suitable replacement fuses are included with the delivery.

When carrying out any procedures whereby you come into contact with the electrical system of the device, such as, for example, changing the bulb or fuse, only carry out these procedures when the power is disconnected.

1.3 Storage

You should ensure that the device is not exposed to direct sunlight, temperatures which are too high or too low, vibrations, dust or a high level of humidity.

The ideal temperature range is between 0 and 40°C and a relative humidity of 85% should not be exceeded.

The device should always be located on a rigid, smooth, horizontal surface.

For devices with pillar stands, the microscope holder must not be rotated back too far. If you do this, there is a risk that the microscope could tip over.

When the microscope is not being used, you should fit the objective cap and cover the microscope with the enclosed dust protective cover.

If the eyepieces are being stored separately, the protective caps must be fitted to the tube connectors. In most cases, if dust and dirt gets inside the optical unit of a microscope this can cause irreversible errors or damage.

The best way to store accessories which consist of optical elements, such as, for example, eyepieces and objectives, is in a dry box with desiccant.

1.4 Maintenance and cleaning

In any event, the device must be kept clean and dusted regularly.

If any moisture should occur, before you wipe down the device you must ensure that the mains power is switched off (if lighting unit is fitted).

When glass components become dirty, the best way to clean them is to wipe them gently with a lint-free cloth.

To wipe oil stains or finger prints off the lens surface, moisten the lint free cloth with a mixture of ether and alcohol (70 / 30 ratio) and use this to clean the lens.

You must be careful when handling ether and alcohol, as these are highly flammable substances. You must therefore keep it away from naked flames and electrical devices which can be switched on and off, and only use it in well-ventilated rooms.

However organic solutions of this type should not be used to clean other components of the device. This could lead to damage to the paint finish. To do this, it is sufficient to use a neutral cleaning product.

You could also use the following cleaning products to clean the optical components:

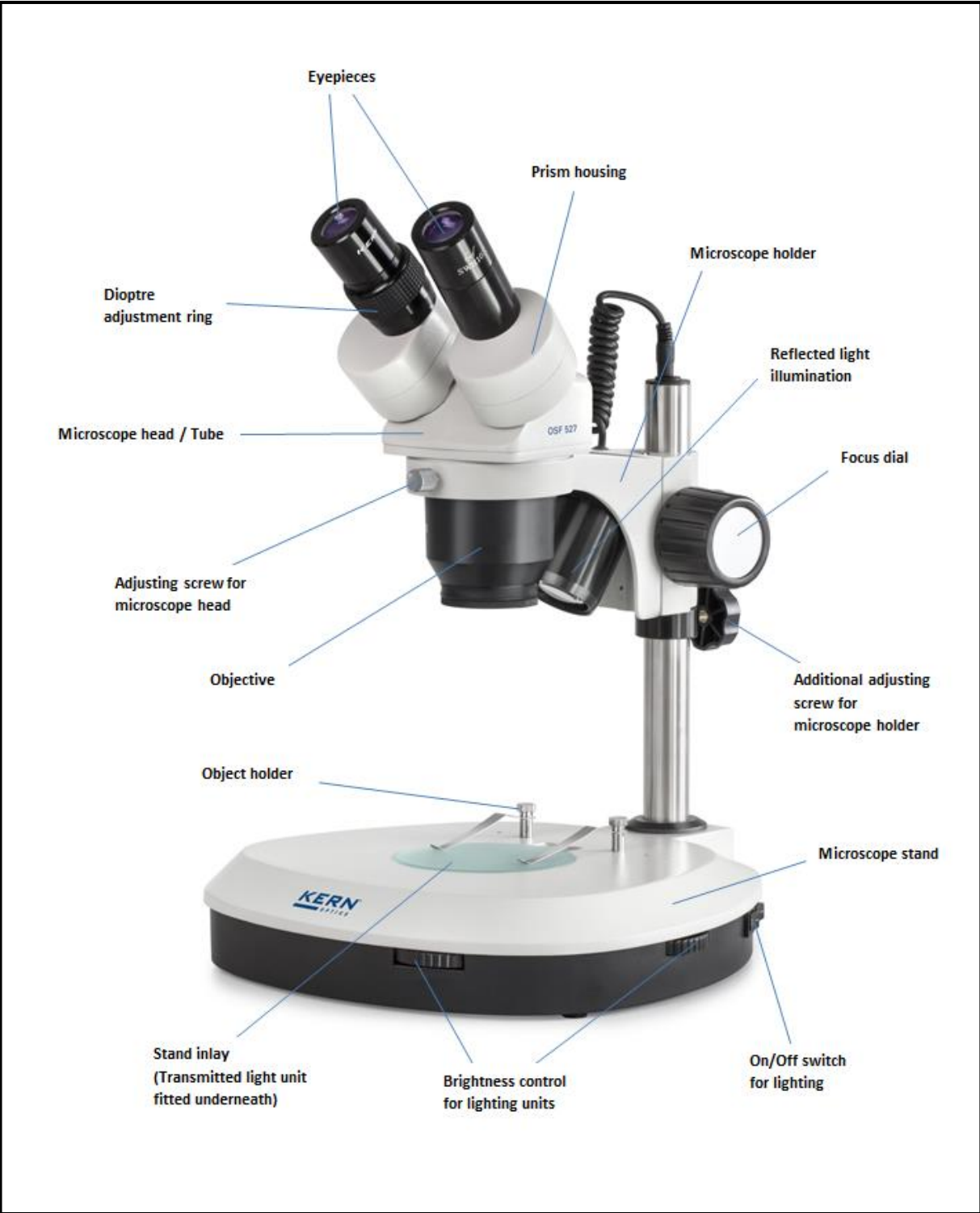
- Special cleaner for optical lenses
- Special optical cleaning cloths
- Bellows
- Brush

When handled correctly and checked regularly, the microscope should give many years of efficient service.

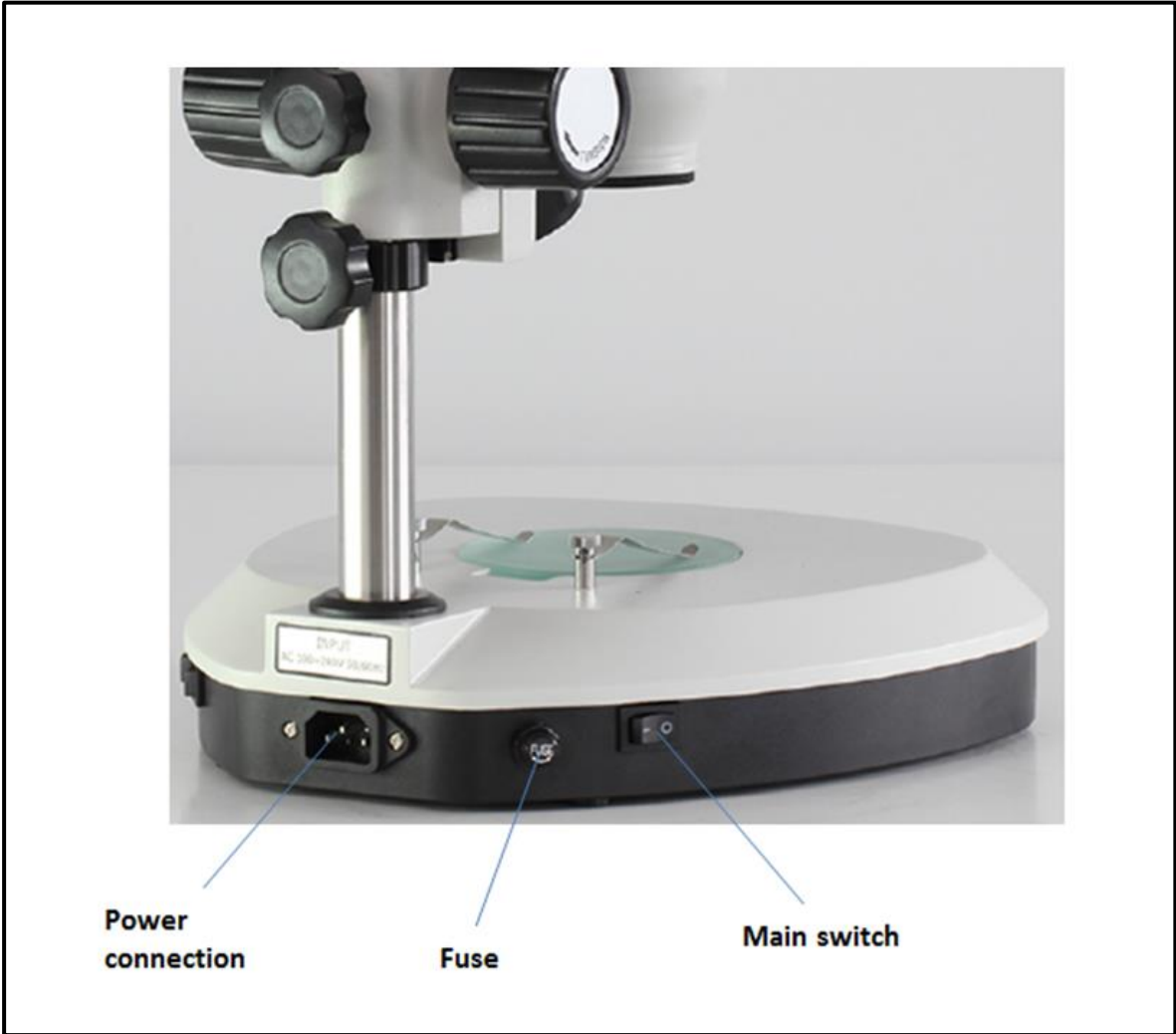
Should repairs still be necessary, please contact your KERN dealer or our Technical Department.

2 Nomenclature

Using the OSF 527 as an example
(With lighting)



Rear view



3 Basic data

OSF-5

Optical system	Greenough
Dimmable lighting	Yes
Tube	angled at 45°
Interpupillary distance	52 – 76 mm
Dioptr adjustment	One-sided (left)

OSF 522 / OSF 524 / OSF 526

Product dimensions WxDxH	310x285x380
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OSF 523 / OSF 525 / OSF 527

Product dimensions WxDxH	310x285x400
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Standard configuration

Model	Tube	Eyepiece	Field of view	Objective	Stand	Illumination
KERN			mm			
OSF 522	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	1x / 2x	Pillar	-
OSF 523	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	1x / 2x	Pillar	3W LED (reflected light); 3W LED (transmitted light)
OSF 524	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	1x / 3x	Pillar	-
OSF 525	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	1x / 3x	Pillar	3W LED (reflected light); 3W LED (transmitted light)
OSF 526	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	2x / 4x	Pillar	-
OSF 527	Binocular	HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm	Ø 23	2x / 4x	Pillar	3W LED (reflected light); 3W LED (transmitted light)

4 Assembly

The first step is to position the **microscope stand on a firm, level surface**. The term stand covers the stand base (standing surface) as well as the metal pillar which is connected to it.

The holder is already on pillar of the stand, but you must always check whether it is **fixed** securely and that it is in the **correct position** (preferably centrally and facing to the front).

Please see section 5.5 for more details on adjusting the stand.

The next step is to place the **microscope head on the holder**, by passing the objective through the holder ring until the rest of the head is above the ring.

You must use the small silver adjusting screw on the front of the holder ring to **fix the head** in place.

The alignment of the microscope head is left to the user to do and can be adjusted to suit the individual application situations.

To make it easier to operate the focus wheels or lighting control for example, we recommend that you position the head with the tube connectors centrally to the front. Ideally, the holder and head are then parallel on the central axis of the stand base (*see figure on page 10*).

Then you can remove the protective caps from the tube connectors so that you can then **fit the eyepieces**. When doing this, please be particularly careful that you do **not touch the optical lenses with your fingers** and that no dust enters the apertures.

You should also **never fit two eyepieces with different magnifications**.

With regard to the use of a device **with lighting** (OSF 523, OSF 525, OSF 527) you must make sure that the **frosted glass stand inlay is fitted in the centre of the stand base**, so that the transmitted light can be used correctly.

Also, when using reflected light please make sure, that the **connection cable between the holder and upper side of the pillar is plugged in**.

Additional optional attachments:

- The eye cups supplied with the microscopes can be fitted to the eyepieces. (*see section 5.6*).



Assembled stereo zoom microscope

5 Operation and functionality

5.1 Getting started

After assembly, if the microscope is ready for use, then for devices with lighting (OSF 523, OSF 525, OSF 527) you must first establish a **power connection** using the cable supplied.

Please see section 5.7 for more details on adjusting the lighting.

Do not forget to remove the cap from the bottom of the objective, so that you will then be able to see a reflection of the object being observed in the eyepiece.

All important functions which relate to the use of the devices in this document are described in the following sections.

5.2 Adjust the interpupillary distance

Different users have different interpupillary distances. So each time a different person uses the microscope, the gap between the two eyepieces must be re-adjusted.

While you are looking through the eyepieces, use one hand to hold the righthand or lefthand prism housing firmly.

By rotating outwards or inwards, you can either increase or reduce the interpupillary distance.

As soon as the lefthand and righthand visual fields exactly overlap each other, this is the correct interpupillary distance.

5.3 Adjusting the magnification

As the KERN OSF-5 series are stereo microscopes (without zoom), we will describe how to set the magnification using the integrated and rotating objective.

For the devices in this series, you can select between two different magnification factors at any time.

Chapter 6 “Optical data” gives information on the possible overall magnification which the microscope can produce. It will also include the optional use of different eyepieces .

5.4 Dioptre adjustment and focussing

A special feature of stereo microscopes is that they are fitted with an optical unit which has a relatively high depth of field. In order to be able get the most benefit from this feature, each user must synchronise the focussing mechanisms for themselves.

The steps to do this are described in the following section.

1. Place the object to be observed on the surface under the objective.
2. Use the objective to set the smallest possible magnification.
3. Look through the righthand eyepiece (without dioptre adjustment ring) with the right eye and bring the object into focus by using the focus control dials.
4. Now set the largest magnification.
5. Once again, still only looking through the righthand eyepiece, bring the object into focus
6. Then set the smallest possible zoom factor again.
7. Then look through the lefthand eyepiece with the left eye (with dioptre adjustment ring) and bring the object into focus, by turning the dioptre adjustment ring left or right at the right point.
8. In order to get the highest level of accuracy when adjusting the focus, you should repeat steps 4-7.
9. In this way, the object being observed will be in focus on any magnification setting.

5.5 Adjusting the stand

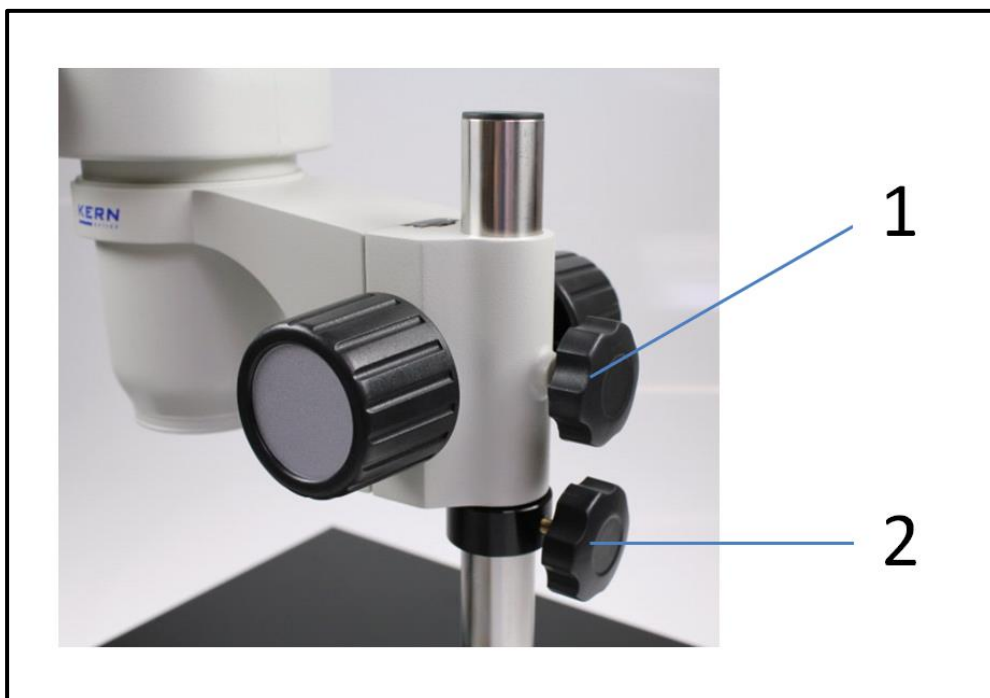
Torque of the focus wheels

You adjust the torque of the focus wheels by holding one of the two wheels in place and using the other hand to turn the other wheel.

Depending on the direction of the turn, the torque will be increased or decreased.

On one hand, this function can help to make it easier to adjust the focus and on the other hand it can prevent the microscope head from slipping down unintentionally. In this way you can avoid possible damage which could occur if the objective lens and the object being observed should collide.

Height adjustment



Fixing the microscope holder

With a stereo microscope on a pillar stand, the microscope head can be height adjusted using the focus wheels and in addition, the microscope holder can be fixed at any point on the pillar, depending on the application requirements.

To primary way to fix the position is to use an adjusting screw (1) on the holder.

There is a metal ring which also ensures sufficient grip and which is fixed with a second screw (2) under the holder on the pillar. This metal ring proves to be particularly useful when the screw (1) on the holder is loosened, to swing the microscope head to the side.

5.6 Using eye cups / High Eye Point eyepieces

The eye cups supplied with the microscope can basically be used at all times, as they screen out intrusive light, which is reflected from light sources from the environment onto the eyepiece, and the result is better image quality.

But primarily, if eyepieces with a high eye point (particularly suitable for those who wear glasses) are used, then it may also be useful for users who don't wear glasses, to fit the eye cups to the eyepieces.

These special eyepieces are also called High Eye Point eyepieces. They can be identified by the glasses symbol on the side. They are also marked in the item description by an additional "H" (example: HSWF 10x Ø 23 mm).

When fitting the eye cups, make sure that the dioptre setting is not moved. We would therefore advise that you hold the dioptre adjustment ring on an eyepiece with one hand while you fit the eye cup with the other.

Before using the microscope, users who wear glasses must remove the eye cups, which you may find on High Eye Point eyepieces.

As the eye cups are made of rubber, you must be aware that when you are using them, they can become slightly dirty through grease residues. In order to maintain hygiene, we would therefore recommend that you clean the eye cups regularly (e.g. with a damp cloth).



Eye cups



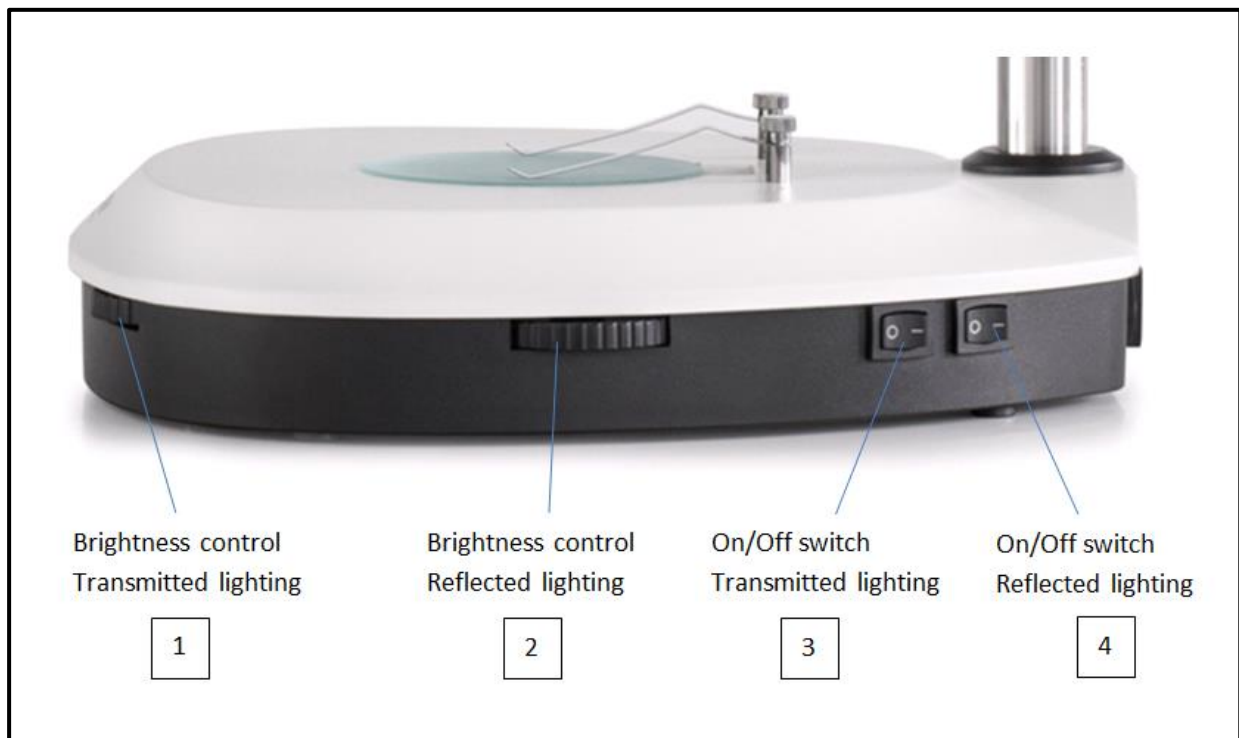
High Eye Point eyepiece
(identified by the glasses symbol)

5.7 Brightness adjustment (OSF 523, OSF 525, OSF 527)

For microscopes which have integrated lighting, the necessary on/off switches are on the righthand side of the stand base on/off switch (see figure).

Provided that the main switch is switched on, you can operate the reflected light and transmitted light using these two switches. Looking at the microscope from the righthand side, the lefthand switch (3) is for transmitted light and the righthand switch (4) is for reflected light.

You can also adjust the light intensity for both lighting units. To do this there are two wheels on the stand base. The wheel at the front (1) is for adjusting the brightness of the transmitted light and the wheel on the righthand side (2), next to the switches, is for adjusting the brightness of the reflected light. Depending on which way you turn the wheel, the corresponding light will become lighter or darker.



Control elements for the lighting unit

5.8 Using external illumination units

If, when using a microscope in its standard version, the lighting is not suitable for the application, then it often makes sense to fit an external lighting unit to overcome this problem.

These lighting units are divided into two groups.

- Ring lighting units (*left figure*), usually LED
- Goose neck lighting units (*right figure*), both Halogen and LED as standard

Both units require an extra power connection and can, depending on the model, also have an on/off switch and various lighting unit controls.



Typical ring lighting unit



Typical goose neck lighting unit

Fitting a ring lighting unit

As you can see in the figure on the left, the ring lighting units have three screws which must be positioned such that they do not protrude into the ring. The ring will be fitted round the objective and the screws will be screwed in until the lighting unit is fixed firmly onto the objective.

Using goose neck lighting units

Depending on the requirements, a goose neck lighting unit is placed next to, in front of or behind the microscope. The light source is in the housing of the unit and is emitted through one or several optical fibre cables.

These cables are flexible and therefore offer a large number of positioning options, so that the object being observed is perfectly illuminated.

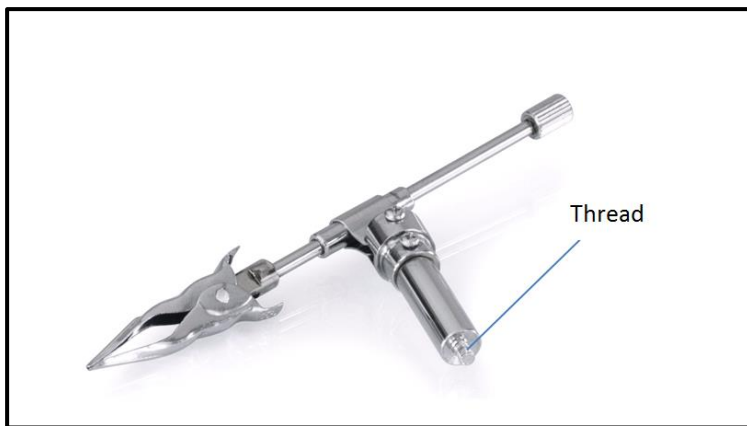
5.9 Using additional accessories

Dark field kit and object clamp

Microscopes from the OSF-5 series are ideal for dark field applications. Dark field attachments and object clamps are available as accessories for these applications.

You just have to fit the dark field attachment in the recess in the middle of the stand base. You must first remove the stand inlay which is fitted.

The object clamp which you need for dark field applications can be fitted using its thread (see *left figure*) on one of the two sockets, next to the object holder on the stand base (see *right figure*).



Angle table



Standard angle table



Angle table for using transmitted light

For easier handling of an object to be observed, it can be useful to fit an additional mechanical angle table on the working surface of a stereo microscope.

For devices without lighting you can use a standard angle table (*see left figure*). However if there is an integrated transmitted lighting unit, you should use a special angle table with transmitted light compatibility (*see right figure*).

As the figures show, both versions each have two coaxially positioned adjustment wheels in the righthand rear corner of the table. This means that you can move it in the x and y directions.

To fit this, the user must bore four holes through the surface of the stand base at particular points on the edge of the recess for the stand inlay. Then the screws included with the table can be used to fix the table from the underside.

A user guide is included with the delivery of each angle table which contains the precise instructions on how to fit it. We strongly recommend that you follow these instructions closely, to make sure that you will be able to use the angle table without problems.

5.10 Changing the bulb

LED

Devices from the OSF-5 series with lighting units are all fitted with LED bulbs. Due to the long service life of an LED lighting system, for these microscopes it will not be necessary to simply change a bulb.

Problems with the lighting unit would therefore, in most cases, be caused by defects in the electrical system. If this is the case, then our Technical Service will be able to help.

5.11 Changing the fuse

The fuse is on the rear of microscope stand base next to the main switch (*label: "Fuse"*). If the fuse has blown, then with the device switched off and the power disconnected, the fuse can easily be screwed out and replaced with a new one.

6 Optical data

Eyepiece	Specifications - Objectives				
	Magnification	1x	2x	3x	4x
HSWF 10x	Total magnification	10x	20x	30x	40x
	Field of view mm	Ø 23	Ø 11,5	Ø 7,67	Ø 5,75
SWF 15x	Total magnification	15x	30x	45x	60x
	Field of view mm	Ø 17	Ø 8,5	Ø 5,67	Ø 4,25
SWF 20x	Total magnification	20x	40x	60x	80x
	Field of view mm	Ø 14	Ø 7	Ø 4,67	Ø 3,5
SWF 30x	Total magnification	30x	60x	90x	120x
	Field of view mm	Ø 9	Ø 4,5	Ø 3	Ø 2,25
Working distance		105 mm	105 mm	105 mm	105 mm

7 Features

Model outfit		Kern model						Order number
		OSF 522	OSF 523	OSF 524	OSF 525	OSF 526	OSF 527	
Eyepieces	HSWF 10x / Ø 23 mm	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	OZB-A5503
	SWF 15x / Ø 17 mm	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	OZB-A5504
	SWF 20x / Ø 14 mm	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	OZB-A5505
	SWF 30x / Ø 9mm	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	○○	OZB-A5506
	HSWF 10x / Ø 23 mm (with 0.1 mm scale)	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5512
	SWF 15x / Ø 17 mm (with 0.05 mm scale)	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5513
	SWF 20x / Ø 14 mm (with 0.05 mm scale)	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5514
Dark field attachment	Dark field attachment	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5708
Object clamp	Object clamp	○	○	○	○	○	○	OBB-A6201
Stand	Pillar, without lighting	●		●		●		OBB-A6205
	Pillar, with 3W LED lighting (Transmitted light and reflected light)		●		●		●	OZB-A5101
	For further stands, please see the Kern Optics main catalogue, from page 64 and please visit our website www.kern-sohn.com							
Stand inlay	Frosted glass – Ø94.5 mm		●		●		●	OZB-A5192
	Black/White – Ø94.5 mm	●	●	●	●	●	●	OZB-A5191
	Glass – Ø94.5 mm		○		○		○	OZB-A5190
Table mechanical	Dimensions WxD 188 x 160 mm, Travel: 76x65mm, for reflected light and transmitted light	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5781
	Dimensions WxD 180 x 175 mm, Travel: 100x86mm, for reflected light	○	○	○	○	○	○	OZB-A5782
External illumination	For information on external lighting units, please see the Kern Optics main catalogue, from page 68 and visit our website www.kern-sohn.com							

● = Standard configuration

○ = Option

8 Trouble shooting

Electrical system

Problem	Possible causes
The lighting unit (if fitted) cannot be switched on	The power cable is either not connected or not connected correctly
	The bulb is not fitted
	The bulb has blown
	The fuse has blown
The bulb has blown	The brightness control is set to the lowest level
	The wrong bulb has been used
The bulb flickers	The input voltage was too high
	The bulb is not correctly fitted
The bulb brightness is not sufficient	The lamp is worn out
	The wrong bulb has been used
	The input voltage is too low

Optical unit

Problem	Possible causes
You can see two images	The interpupillary distance is not set correctly
	The magnifications of the eyepieces do not match
There is dirt in the visual field	There is dirt on the object being observed
	There is dirt on the eyepiece surface
The image is unclear	There is dirt on the objective surface
The focus wheels are jammed	The torque of the focus wheels is set too high
The microscope head slips down while you are viewing the object	The torque of the focus wheels is set too low
Eyes get tired easily	The dioptre adjustment is not correct
	The brightness adjustment is not correct

9 Service

If, after studying the user manual, you still have questions about commissioning or using the microscope, or if unforeseen problems should arise, please get in touch with your dealer. The device may only be opened by trained service engineers who have been authorised by KERN.

10 Disposal

The packaging is made of environmentally-friendly materials, which you can dispose of at your local recycling centre. Disposal of the storage box and device must be carried out by the operator in accordance with all national or regional laws in force in the location of use.

11 Further information

The illustrations may differ slightly from the product.

The descriptions and illustrations in this user manual are **subject to change without notice**. Further developments on the device may lead to these changes.



All language versions contain a non-binding translation.
The original German document is the binding version.