



PICCOLO

Frequently asked questions

Using Piccolo

What is the purpose of cleaning interdentally? Cleaning between teeth cleans the 40% of the tooth surface not reached by your toothbrush. Interdental cleaning removes debris from between the teeth and biofilm from tooth surfaces and disrupts its progression, preventing plaque buildup and gum inflammation, the cause of 80% of your oral health problems.

Do I still need to visit the dentist if I am cleaning interdentally? Absolutely. Delayed dental care can lead to significant health consequences, from gum disease and tooth loss to connections with systemic conditions such as [diabetes](#), [heart disease](#), and [pregnancy complications](#)

What is the minimum age for using Piccolo? We suggest that the minimum age for unsupervised use is 13 years old.

Is Piccolo ready to go out of the box? Yes. The more you use it, the better it works. Piccolo's bearings and seals do take a bit of time to loosen up.

How does Piccolo clean? The rotating tip has a spiral shape that guides itself between your teeth. As it spins, it pulls itself into tight spaces, winding out trapped debris and cleaning away plaque from the tooth surfaces—all without harsh scraping or discomfort.

How do I use Piccolo? We recommend reading the full Instructions for Use (IFU) before starting.

Step 1. Turn Piccolo on by pressing the bottom of Piccolo. This powers up the motor that rotates the tip.

Step 2. Place Piccolo in the palm of your hand and squeeze the grip with all fingers wrapped around the grip. The grip acts as a pump squeezing the air through the internal bellows so the tip extends from the tip holder. The harder you squeeze the grip, the more the tip protrudes from the tip guide. Releasing the grip causes a vacuum that retracts the tip into the tip guide.

Step 3. Place the tip guide gently between two teeth at the gum line, keeping it slightly away from the tooth and gum surface. This allows the tip to position itself naturally. Slowly squeeze the grip to extend the tip from the guide. The more pressure you apply, the farther the tip will move forward

Step 4. Release your grip so the tip retracts into the guide. Then, reposition Piccolo at the next gap.

Do I need to force the tip into the interdental space? No—never force it. Piccolo's spiral tip is designed to gently guide itself into the space between your teeth. Just place the tip at the entrance to the gap, turn the device on, squeeze the grip gently and let it work its way in naturally.

Because Piccolo cleans by shearing and sweeping biofilm off the tooth surface, it does not rely on pushing or scraping like traditional interdental tools. That means you can clean effectively with very light pressure and without repeatedly forcing the tip in and out.

Forcing any interdental device—whether a brush, rubber tip, wooden stick, or pick—can potentially irritate gums or damage tooth surfaces. Piccolo avoids that risk by using a soft, tapered design that cleans thoroughly while being gentle on gums.



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The Piccolo won't start- what should I do? Press the base of the body to switch it on. You should hear a whizzing sound. If you don't hear the whizzing sound:

- Check that the battery is inserted correctly (positive end toward the tip).
- Make sure the battery is charged or replace it if needed.

The tip isn't rotating—what should I do?

1. Make sure the device is turned on.
2. Rinse the tip and tip guide under fast-flowing cold water.
3. Remove the tip and guide, then reinsert them securely.
4. If the problem persists, replace the tip with a clean one.

The tip stopped rotating while in use—what should I do? For safety, the tip is designed to stop immediately if it enters a space that's too small. It will never jam firmly. Keep the device running and gently move the tip away from your teeth—the tip will release itself. If the tip becomes clogged with debris, rinse it under a fast-running tap while the tip is extended and still rotating.

The grip is not reinflating. Remove the grip from the body and reattach. Turn the product on, squeeze and release the grip ensuring that the grip reinflates. In the case of the grip not re-inflating, remove and reattach the grip.

How frequently do I need to replace the tip/tip guide? Replace the tip and/or tip guide if it shows signs of wear, deformation, or cracking. Tips are reusable but should be replaced monthly. Replace the tip guide if it becomes dirty or damaged.

Where can I buy the Piccolo and replacement Tips? Direct from our website.

www.thepiccolo.com.au/

How do I know I am using Piccolo correctly? In most cases, you'll feel the tip gently massaging your gums as it moves through the spaces between your teeth. When the tip transitions from the lip side to the tongue side, you can confirm the tip is fully through the space by feeling it with your tongue against your teeth.

How long will it take me to master Piccolo? Daily use for one to two weeks is usually enough to become comfortable with Piccolo. Many users find it easier to start by focusing on one quadrant at a time—beginning with the front teeth—before moving to the back. Cleaning in front of a mirror can help you see and understand how to position the tip in the interdental spaces.



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I have blood in my mouth after using Piccolo. Bleeding when you first start cleaning between your teeth is often a sign of inflammation or gum disease, which may not have been noticeable before. Piccolo reaches areas that are commonly missed, and the initial bleeding can be an indication that your gums need attention. With regular daily use, most people find that bleeding reduces and stops within a few days as the gums become healthier. Piccolo's tapered tip is designed to clean effectively while gently massaging the gum tissue to support healing. If bleeding persists beyond a week, gets worse, or if you are concerned at any point, please consult your dental or oral health professional.

I wear a lingual wire/ have braces/ have implants/ have a bridge, can I use Piccolo? Yes. The tip is designed to clean effectively, even around bridges and orthodontic appliances.

Why is it difficult to access the interdental space? Sometimes you can have plaque build-up that needs to be removed by an Oral Health Professional.

What is the best cleaning regime? Squeeze the tip in and out of each gap twice, moving the tip guide in small circles. When finally extracting the Tip, move it up towards the cutting edge of your teeth. Both maneuvers maximise coverage.

How long should I clean for? Take your time—effective cleaning doesn't require rushing. Brushing your teeth and cleaning interdentally takes time. We recommend that Interdental cleaning for more than one to two seconds per tooth is unnecessary as the Tip rotates at 1500 rpm and does a thorough cleaning where it enters. For a more thorough clean, repeat the insertion once or twice in the same space before moving to the next gap.

Do I need to clean from both sides of my teeth? Cleaning from both sides is of course better but, in our opinion, not necessary every time you Piccolo. The saliva in your mouth cleans and repairs where it reaches, and the inner surfaces of your teeth, tongue side are much cleaner than the cheek buccal side as they are more exposed to the saliva. If in doubt consult with your Oral health Professional.

Can several family members use the same Piccolo? It is possible; however we would recommend that each member of the family should use their own tip guide and tip.

How does Piccolo clean so effectively? Piccolo uses a shearing effect caused by the tips lateral and rotational force that effectively disrupts and removes the biofilm by cutting through it, rather than scraping (which relies on friction in one direction), brushing (which depends on bristle action), or irrigating (which uses fluid pressure).



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How do I clean between teeth that sit close together? In a healthy mouth the top or cutting edges touch and are quite tight as the teeth support each other. Only floss tape can penetrate this space, but this has negligible effect on oral health. The teeth move slightly when you are eating, keeping the contact points devoid of debris and clean.

Do I need different sized tips for my interdental spaces? No. This product is designed for general use in every interdental space

Can I use Piccolo if I have very tiny interdental spaces? It depends on how tight. However, tight interdental spaces will be cleaned even though the tip will appear not to enter fully. You can feel the tip entering the gap with your tongue. It is ideal to clean interdentally from tongue side of your teeth occasionally to achieve complete cleaning especially when cleaning very tight interdental spaces.

Is Piccolo cleaning if my interdental space is wider than the diameter of Piccolo tip? Yes, Piccolo is effective in wider gaps because it's rotating tip disrupts plaque and debris. The gyrating motion reaches all surfaces. Tip: For best results, insert the tip into the gap and move your hand in small circles to ensure full coverage.

Can I use the Piccolo when in the shower? Yes. Piccolo is 100% waterproof.

Does Piccolo clean my tongue? No.

Does Piccolo also brush my teeth? No, we recommend brushing your teeth with your regular toothbrush.

Should I press the tip to the gum line or the tooth surface? This is the very thing you should not do as it can trap the tip and damage it as well as causing trauma to the gum. Place the tip guide gently between two teeth at the gum line, keeping it slightly away from the tooth and gum surface. This allows the tip to position itself naturally. Slowly squeeze the grip to extend the tip from the guide. The more pressure you apply, the farther the tip will move forward



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About Piccolo

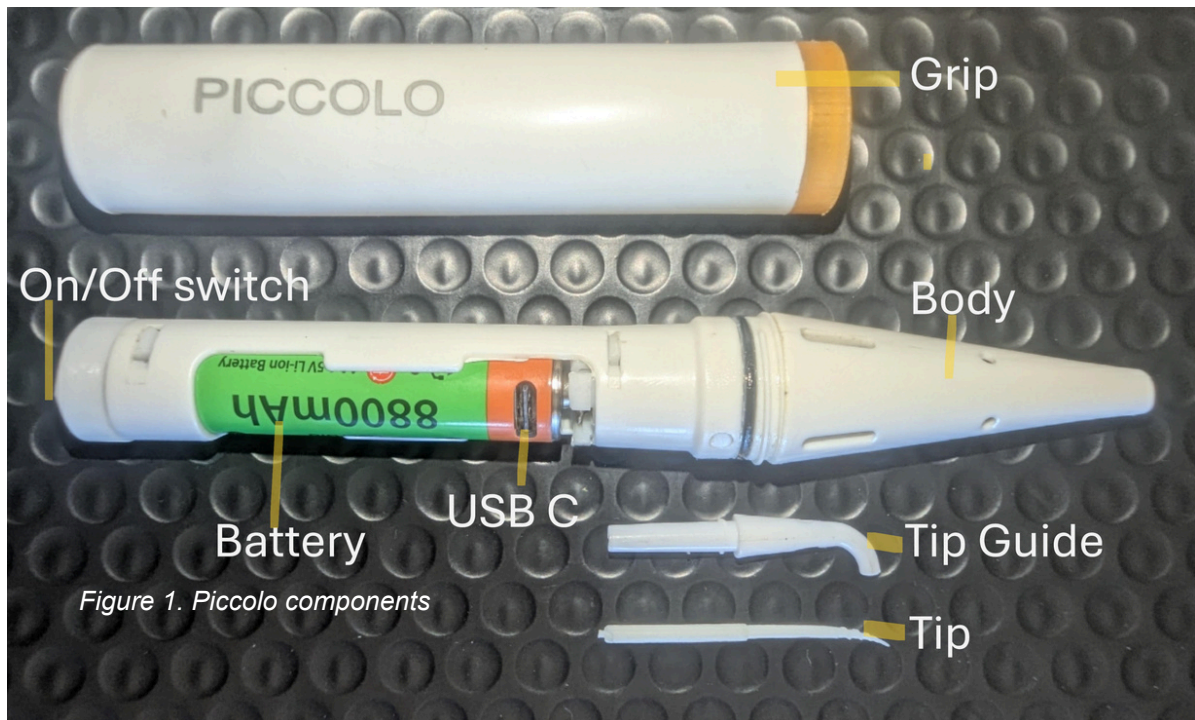


Figure 1. Piccolo components

Are there other colours available? No, but maybe in the future

Are the tips flavoured? No, but maybe in the future

Does the grip attract dust and dirt? No. We chose a finish that resists dust, so it stays clean in your bag or bathroom

Why is Piccolo not 100% automatic? Piccolo isn't fully automatic because your mouth isn't one-size-fits-all. Your control ensures the tip gently finds the right angle for each space, while Piccolo does the cleaning work. This partnership keeps the experience safe, personalised, and more effective than a "blind" automatic insertion could ever be. Think of it like power steering: you stay in control, Piccolo provides the power.

What sort of batteries does Piccolo use? We use an AA sized lithium battery with built-in USB-C port for recharging, thus eliminating the need for a separate charger. The battery can be charged with a standard USB-C cable connected to a power source like a wall adapter or a computer. This is a convenient alternative to traditional rechargeable batteries that require a specific charger. You can also use a standard AA battery. We recommend Energiser Ultimate Lithium AA batteries available from the supermarket



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Is Piccolo rechargeable? Yes. We use an AA battery with built-in USB-C port for recharging, which eliminates the need for a separate charger. The battery can be charged with a standard USB-C cable connected to a power source like a wall adapter or a computer.

How do I know the battery is fully charged? The battery is fully charged when the flashing green light stops flashing.

How does Piccolo clean? The rotating tip is tapered with a gentle spiral shape that guides itself between your teeth. As it spins, it easily slips into tight spaces, winding out trapped debris and cleaning away plaque from the tooth surfaces—all without harsh scraping or discomfort.

How does the mechanism work? The battery provides power to a motor so that the tip rotates at 1500rpm. Squeezing the grip allows the user to control the depth of penetration of the self-threading tip into the interproximal space (the gap between your teeth). Releasing the grip causes a vacuum that retracts the tip into the tip guide.

What is the tip made from? A recyclable, Thermoplastic Elastomer (TPE) also used in the food industry. Thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) possess qualities of both rubbers and plastics, as they can stretch and return to their original form and be moulded like conventional plastics.

How often do I clean Piccolo? After every use with the Piccolo turned on rinse the Piccolo tip and tip guide under cold water. See the Care and maintenance guide.

How do I replace the tip? With Piccolo turned on and running remove the tip guide by turning it a half twist anticlockwise. The tip will remain connected to Piccolo body. Turn Piccolo off and remove the tip and discard. Insert a new tip into the tip guide ensuring the bottom of the tip is level with bottom of the tip guide. Re-connect the tip guide to Piccolo body.