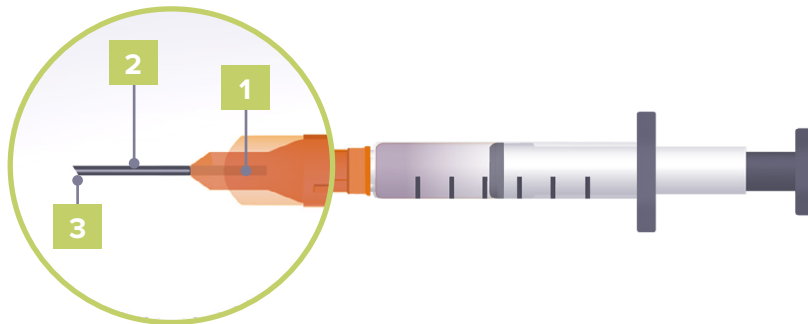


NEEDLE GAUGES




The Three Parts of a Needle

- 1 **Hub:** fits onto the end of the syringe
- 2 **Shaft:** hollow needle opening or lumen
- 3 **Bevel:** slanted pointed tip



Needle Gauge Chart

	14 GAUGE. Color: olive ● Outer diameter: 072 in (1.83 mm)
	15 GAUGE. Color: amber ● Outer diameter: 065 in (1.65 mm)
	16 GAUGE. Color: gray ● Outer diameter: 064 in (1.63 mm)
	18 GAUGE. Color: green ● Outer diameter: 050 in (1.27 mm)
	20 GAUGE. Color: pink ● Outer diameter: 036 in (.91 mm)
	21 GAUGE. Color: purple ● Outer diameter: 033 in (.83 mm)
	22 GAUGE. Color: blue ● Outer diameter: 027 in (.70 mm)
	23 GAUGE. Color: orange ● Outer diameter: 025 in (.63 mm)
	25 GAUGE. Color: red ● Outer diameter: 020 in (.53 mm)
	27 GAUGE. Color: white ○ Outer diameter: 016 in (.42 mm)

 **Filter needle** ●

CLINICAL TIP: Verify gauge and needle length before use!

Needle gauges represent the size of the needle. They are available in standard sizes, coded colors, and varying in length. The **LARGER** the gauge number, the **SMALLER** the needle shaft. A 22 gauge needle has a smaller shaft than a 14 gauge needle.

Needle gauge/size	Usage	Types of injections
21–22–23 gauge	Injection of large amounts of medication into muscular layer of the skin	Intramuscular
24–27 or 29 gauge	Administering medication and test agents (e.g. tuberculin test agents) into the dermal layer	Intradermal
27 or 25 gauge	Introducing medication just below dermal layer of skin (e.g. when administering insulin)	Subcutaneous
Filter needle (needle with small, glass filtering device)	Preparing medication from ampule	Administering medications withdrawn from a glass ampule

NOTES

