

Setting up a Microscope: Kohler Illumination

- 1 - Place slide on the stage and bring to focus.
- 2 - Close (anti-clockwise) the Field Diaphragm. This is the diaphragm in the base of the microscope.
- 3 - Close the Condenser (Aperture) Diaphragm to about 2/3 of its travel.
- 4 - Focus the Condenser. Turn the focus knob on the condenser until the edges of the Field Diaphragm are as sharp as possible - there may be a red fringe on one side of focus and blue on the other: go for the centre between these. The condenser should be close to the slide bottom.
- 5 - Open the Field Diaphragm to the edge of the field and centre using the condenser centring controls. Once centred, open until it just disappears.
- 6 - Adjust the Condenser Diaphragm. Remove an eyepiece and look down the eyepiece tube. Close the condenser diaphragm until the diaphragm reduces the aperture to about 2/3 of full open.

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