

## Types of Surgical Clamps

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### Video Transcript

Surgical clamps are classified into four functional groups including:

1. Hemostatic clamps primarily used to grab, hold, and crush blood vessels
2. Right-angle clamps primarily used for dissecting around structures and suture passing
3. Crushing clamps that crush non-vascular tissue or tissue that will be removed during the procedure
4. Atraumatic clamps that are used to occlude hollow viscera and to retract and hold soft tissues.

Towel clamps are a related group of instruments that are used to fasten surgical drapes to patients. Although towel clamps are occasionally used for other purposes, such as rib or abdominal wall retraction, their primary use is restricted to draping and will therefore not be covered in this module.