Key Steps — Inserting a Foley catheter — male patient

The key steps for this skill, in the order they are demonstrated in the video. Part of our Catheters, Tubes & Elimination skills collection.

- ☐ 1. Check the order, confirm the patient's identity, and explain what you are about to do.
- ☐ 2. Assemble the catheter kit and position the patient comfortably with the bed at working height.
- ☐ 3. Set up the sterile field, keeping the outer border as your non-sterile margin, and lay the drape.
- ☐ 4. Put on sterile gloves and prepare the antiseptic swabs, lubricant and catheter; attach the water syringe to the balloon port.
- ☐ 5. Cleanse the glans in circular motions with antiseptic swabs, holding the penis with your other (now non-sterile) hand.
- ☐ 6. Lubricate the catheter and insert it into the urethra, advancing steadily until urine appears.
- ☐ 7. Fill the balloon with the sterile water supplied in the kit, stopping to reposition if the patient feels pain.
- ☐ 8. Connect the drainage bag, secure the catheter, and keep the bag below the bladder.
- ☐ 9. Remove the sterile gloves, wash the antiseptic off the patient with clean gloves on, and settle the patient.
- ☐ 10. Document the catheter type and size, the urine returned, and how the patient tolerated the procedure.

Watch the demonstration: medicalvideos.com/watch/insert-foley-catheter_IgtkbG400GFKnQhmDTKl.html • More Catheters, Tubes & Elimination skills: medicalvideos.com/nursing/catheters-tubes.html
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Steps summarise this demonstration for education and do not replace your institution's protocol, which always governs. Content reviewed by Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim, MD, PhD — physician-scientist. October 2026.