



# What is the difference between a cap liner and a cap septum – FAQ

## Liners or Septa?

A **liner** can be made of the same material and be the same or different thickness as a septum but it is installed in a solid top cap and therefore cannot be pierced as **septa** do. Its primary function is to keep the sample from escaping the vial while the cap is on.

*Note: According to Wikipedia a septum (septa is plural) is Latin for something that encloses; or a wall, dividing a [cavity](#) or structure into smaller ones. For chromatography, a septum encloses the vial keeping samples and gases enclosed in the vial until a needle penetrates it and extracts some of the sample to be injected and then reseals itself.*

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