Which Drug Patches Can Be Cut?

This chart was prepared by Sarah E. Kerner, Pharm.D., and Joseph A. Cameron, III, Pharm.D. candidate, from Hen House and Price Chopper Pharmacy and University of Missouri-Kansas City in response to questions they have received. The manufacturers listed below were contacted to obtain the information contained in the chart.

Can the patch be cut?		
Medication	Cut?	Other Information
fentanyl (Duragesic)	No	gel
norelgestromin/ethinyl estradiol (Ortho Evra)	No	
estradiol (Estraderm)	No	reservoir
estradiol (Vivelle)	No	matrix
testosterone (Androderm)	No	gel
nitroglycerin (Nitro Dur)	No	drug layered not reservoir but do not cut
scopolamine (Transderm Scop)	No	
estradiol (Climara)	Yes	matrix-no trials
clonidine (Catapress TTS)	Yes	drug layered not reservoir
lidocaine (Lidoderm)	Yes	cut to size prior to removal of release liner
menthol 1.4% (Bengay)	Yes	cut to size
menthol 5% (Icy Hot)	Yes	cut to size
capsaicin 0.09% (TheraPatch)	Yes	cut to size

Disclaimer: The authors have made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information contained above is accurate in accordance with the latest available scientific knowledge at the time of publication. No liability will be assumed for the use of this educational reference. Users are strongly encouraged to consult the primary literature for complete information.

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