

CLEANING & DISINFECTING

COVID-19 BEST PRACTICES #5



CLEAN AND SANITIZE HIGH TOUCH SURFACES REGULARLY

No special cleaning chemicals are required to keep your facility clean and sanitary. Most common household disinfectants will be effective on the virus that causes COVID-19. Be sure to read and follow label instructions. These instructions will include info on contact time or how long the surface must remain wet for the product to be effective.

FOR SOFT SURFACES:

To disinfect soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs and drapes, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces. The EPA has approved hydrogen peroxide for use against the SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) that causes COVID-19 for disinfection of porous surfaces. Heat or steam can also be used to sanitize porous surfaces. The surfaces should be heated to, 158 F, for five minutes or to 212 F, for one minute. Hot water extraction or steam cleaning are common tools used to achieve these temperatures for non-washable items.

If you cannot use high temperature or hydrogen peroxide treatment, consider storing smaller objects for 10 days until the risk of virus infection is gone.

BUSINESS RESOURCES



HEALTH
SERVICES

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FOR HARD NON-FOOD CONTACT SURFACES:

Clean surfaces with soap and water or other appropriate cleaner then use a disinfectant. See handout below on how to prepare disinfectants for non-food contact surfaces. Provide gloves for staff use to protect themselves from cleaning chemicals and ensure they wash their hands after removing gloves. Bathrooms can be cleaned at the same regular intervals as other high touch surfaces. There are no specific recommendations to clean a bathroom after every use.

LINENS, CLOTHING, AND OTHER LAUNDRY ITEMS:

Do not shake dirty laundry. Shaking can cause the virus to spread through the air. Follow the manufacturer's directions to wash items. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting and completely dry them. You can wash other people's items with dirty laundry that was in contact with an ill person. Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts used to move laundry by using the above guidance for hard or soft surfaces.

BUSINESS RESOURCES



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- ▶ Clean noticeably dirty or soiled surfaces using a soap and water mixture or another cleaning solution.
- ▶ After cleaning, disinfect hard surfaces, properly apply any of the disinfectants below by following the manufacturer's instructions (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time):
 - An alcohol solution with 70%–95% alcohol content (generally appropriate for electronics)
 - A chemical listed on EPA List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2, or
- ▶ ***A diluted household bleach solution:***
 - Dilute 4 Teaspoons bleach per 4 cups of cool water OR
 - Dilute 1/3 cup bleach per gallon of water

Allow the surface to remain wet for 2 mins, then wipe with a clean paper towel OR just allow to air dry

DO:	DON'T:
Mix solutions daily	Mix bleach with other chemicals including ammonia
Use bleach that lists % sodium hypochlorite	Use scented or splashless bleach
Label or color code containers so staff know what is inside	Use expired bleach
Fully wet surfaces by spraying or wiping	Forget to wear gloves to protect skin from prolonged contact with bleach solutions

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