

Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings

This document provides guidance on cleaning and disinfection of Public use areas.

What You Should Know

- Commonly used cleaners and disinfectants are effective against COVID-19
- Frequently touched surfaces are most likely to be contaminated
- Use only disinfectants that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN). *A DIN is an 8-digit number given by Health Canada that confirms it is approved for use in Canada*
- Check the expiry date of products you use and always follow manufacturer's instructions

Clean Frequently Touched Surfaces

- In addition to routine cleaning, surfaces that have frequent contact with hands should be cleaned and disinfected more often and when visibly dirty
- Examples include doorknobs, light switches, toilet handles, counters, handrails, touch screen surfaces and keypads



Select Products

Cleaners

- Break down grease and remove organic material from the surface
- Used separately before using disinfectants
- Can be purchased with cleaner and disinfectant combined in a single product

Disinfectants

- Have chemicals that kill most germs
- Applied after the surfaces have been cleaned
- Have a Drug Identification Number (DIN)

Disinfectant Wipes

- Have combined cleaners and disinfectants in one solution
- May become dry due to fast drying properties. Should be discarded if they become dry.
- Not recommended for heavily soiled surfaces

Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings

How to Clean and Disinfect



Clean

- **Wear disposable gloves** to clean and disinfect
- **Clean surfaces using soap and water, then use disinfectant**
- Cleaning with soap and water **reduces number of germs, dirt, and impurities** on the surface.
Disinfecting kills germs on surfaces
- **Practice routine cleaning** of frequently touched surfaces
 - More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use
 - Surfaces and objects in public places should be cleaned and disinfected before each use
- **High touch surfaces include:**
 - Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.



Disinfect

- **Recommend use of disinfectant with a DIN (Drug Identification Number). Follow instructions on the label** to ensure safe and effective use of the product. Many products recommend:
 - Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label).
 - Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.
- **Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used** if appropriate for the surface.
 - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection and has a sodium hypochlorite concentration of 5%-6%. Ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Those intended for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening may not be suitable for disinfection.
 - Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. **Follow manufacturer's instructions** for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. **Leave solution on the surface for at least 1 minute.**
 - **To make a bleach solution, mix:**
 - 5 tablespoons ($\frac{1}{3}$ cup) bleach per 3.75L of room temperature water, or
 - 4 teaspoons bleach per 4 cups of room temperature water
 - Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24hrs.
- Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings

Cleaning and disinfecting your facility if someone is sick

- **Close of areas** used by the person who is sick
- **Open outside doors and windows** to increase air circulation in the area
- **Wait 24hrs** before you clean or disinfect. If 24hrs is not feasible, wait as long as possible
- Clean and disinfect **all areas used by the person who is sick**, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment like laptops, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, debit machine, etc.
- Vacuum the space if needed. Use vacuum equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available
 - Do not vacuum a room or space that has people in it. Wait until the room or space is empty to vacuum
- Once area has been appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use.
- If more than 7 days since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.