

Clean

Remove dirt from surfaces

for general hygiene



Soap & Water or Non-Disinfectant Cleaning Spray

Faux Leather, Leather, Textiles, PVC Wall Coverings, Painted Metal, Paint on Wood, Glass, Acrylic, Metals, Laminates, Wood Finishes, Plastics, Metals, Door Hardware

Cleaning refers to the removal of dirt and impurities, including germs, from surfaces. Cleaning alone does not kill germs. But by removing germs—especially from high-touch surfaces—it decreases their number and therefore any risk of spreading infection.

High-touch surfaces include tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.

Disinfect

Remove up to 100% of bacteria, fungi, and certain viruses from surfaces

for households, offices, and medical settings



Bleach-Free Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox Wipes or similar)

Faux Leather, Leather, PVC Wall Coverings, Painted Metal, Paint on Wood, Glass, Acrylic, Wood Finishes, Plastics, Metals, Laminates



Disinfectant Aerosol Spray (Lysol Spray or similar)

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10% Bleach Solution

See [Seating Textile Durability Matrix](#)

First, clean the area or item with soap and water or other detergent. Ensure the surface is completely dry, then use the proper disinfectant product, as noted above (disinfectant wipes, spray, or bleach solution).

Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of any disinfecting product. Many products recommend keeping surface wet with the disinfectant for a period of time. Be sure to follow all product label precautions, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use. Improper cleaning and maintenance of any surface or material may void that product's warranty. A small, inconspicuous area should always be tested before large-scale cleaning.



What about the use of Antimicrobial surfaces and finishes? Manufacturers routinely add antimicrobial chemicals to products for added infection control. Although there are potential health benefits in the use of antimicrobial agents for bacteria, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has not claimed that antimicrobial product treatments are effective in preventing the spread of the novel COVID-19 virus. Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated that proper cleaning and hand washing are the best ways to prevent infection.

101

Disinfecting 101

- Always follow the specific "Directions for Use" on the product label. The product may not work if you don't follow them.
- Never mix different antimicrobial products.
- Most antimicrobial products take time to work. Read the label to find out how long the product must remain in contact with the surface in order to sanitize, disinfect, or sterilize it.
- Ensure surfaces are clean and dry before using antimicrobial products. Dirt, food, and other particles may reduce their effectiveness.
- Take steps to reduce your exposure to antimicrobial products. Some can be harmful when touched or inhaled.



Why not Sanitize?

Sanitizing surfaces kills 99.9% of bacteria only, not viruses. Sanitizing is a term more properly used in household applications or areas of food contact.

Why not Sterilize?

Sterilizing surfaces goes one step beyond disinfection to kill 100% of spores, in addition to 100% of bacteria, fungi, and viruses. Sterilizing is a term more properly used in reference to medical instruments and research supply cleaning.

Sources:

- [EPA](#)
- [CDC](#)
- [Seating Textile Durability Matrix](#)
- [COVID-19 Product Cleaning Guidelines](#)



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