

COVID CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 19

Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting of Your Facility

Medical experts believe that the virus that causes COVID-19 may remain contagious on surfaces for several hours and even up to several days. Cleaning and disinfecting dirty surfaces is the best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses in most settings.

Cleaning is the removal of dirt and germs from surfaces. However, cleaning does not get rid of all germs.

Disinfecting works by using chemicals to kill the majority of germs on surfaces. Killing germs on surfaces reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19 or other infections.

SURFACES

- If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water, prior to disinfecting
- “High touch” surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc. should be cleaned and disinfected regularly.
- Surfaces and objects such as shopping carts and point of sale keypads should be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.

EPA-REGISTERED DISINFECTANTS

Refer to EPA website for EPA-registered disinfectants that have qualified under EPA's emerging viral pathogens program for use against SARS-CoV-2 at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticideregistration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sarscov-2>

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING YOUR BUILDING OR FACILITY IF SOMEONE IS SICK

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- You may not need to close operations, if you can close off the affected areas.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
- Wait 24 hours before you clean or disinfect. If waiting for 24 hours 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 tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines.
- Vacuum the space if needed. Use a vacuum that has a 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, such as at night, for common spaces, or during the day for private rooms.
- Consider temporarily turning off room fans and the central HVAC system that services the room or space, so that particles that escape from vacuuming will not circulate throughout the facility.
- Once an area has been properly disinfected, it can be reopened for use.
- If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

Place all used gloves, facemasks, and other contaminated items in a lined container before throwing away with other waste. Clean your hands (with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) immediately after handling these items. If hands are visibly dirty use soap and water.

For additional guidance on cleaning and disinfecting, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov and the World Health Organization: www.who.int