

COVID-19 Surface Disinfection and Cleaning

Hygiene Practices

It is important that during the COVID-19 pandemic that regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces in the workplace is conducted to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

****If the workplace has a confirmed case of COVID-19, professional disinfection of areas in the workplace may be required.****

Frequently touched surfaces in the workplace that may require to be disinfected on a regular basis include but are not limited to:

- Table tops.
- Buttons.
- Keyboards/mouse/screens.
- Door knobs/handles.
- Switches (lights, on/off).
- Bathrooms.
- Steering wheels.
- Pens.
- Tools (especially handles).
- Stair railings.
- First aid equipment.

Disinfection and cleaning should be conducted as often as possible but at a minimum of beginning of the shift, eating, crew changes and end of the shift. Items such as pens or tools should avoid being shared. If items need to be shared, then they must be disinfected.

Cleaning	Remove visible soiling such as dust, soil, dirt, etc. Cleaning removes bacteria and viruses rather than killing them. This is typically done with water, detergents, and steady friction from cleaning cloths.
Disinfecting	Kills viruses and bacterias. Only used for the disinfecting of objects and is not intended for the human body. Visibly soiled surfaces must be cleaned prior to disinfecting.

Regular housekeeping practices will be sufficient for most cleaning required.

Disinfection Products

- Hospital grade disinfectants (follow manufacturers instructions) or 1 part bleach and 9 parts water solution. **Never mix bleach with ammonia or other cleaning products.**
- Health Canada has put out a list of sufficient disinfectant products that can be used against COVID-19. [Canada Health Products \(disinfectants\) for COVID-19](#)

Conducting Cleaning/Disinfection

- Prior to disinfecting, all visible dust, dirt or debris must be cleaned off using a detergent or soap.
- Instructions when using a product must be in accordance with the manufacturers instructions and the safety data sheet.
- Certain wet disinfection solutions for proper disinfection require to sit on the surface for several minutes prior to removal. Ensure the manufacturers instructions or the safety data sheet are reviewed prior to use.
- After use change, launder or dispose of mops, sponge, rags, cloths or disposable towels to reduce the likeliness of cross contamination between surfaces.
- Wear the proper personal protective equipment recommended by the manufacturers instructions and safety data sheet.

After Cleaning/Disinfection

- Hands must be washed with soap and water using [Safe Work Practice - Hand washing](#) immediately after removing gloves.
- Disposable materials must be placed into a proper sealed waste bag.

Housekeeping

PPE, Equipment and First Aid for Bleach or Other Products

Workers must always review the SDS of a product and comply with first aid and PPE requirements. Listed below is some generic PPE, equipment and first aid instructions that are generic for disinfecting/sanitizing products. All cleaning/disinfecting must be conducted by a trained and qualified worker.

Common Precautions

- When mixing or pouring bleach, ensure you are in a well ventilated area.
- Never mix bleach with other cleaning products and avoid mixing cleaning products in general.
- Ensure cleaning products are stored in a secure, dry, cool place when they are not in use. Always keep away from direct sunlight.
- Products must be properly labelled and ensure the cap is adequately tightened prior to storage.
- Never eat, drink or smoke when working with cleaning products.

Personal Protective Equipment

- Goggles, face shield, safety glasses, etc.

- Nitrile or neoprene gloves.
- CSA approved steel toed work boots.
- Tyvek suit or a minimum of long sleeved shirt and pants.
- First aid kit (must have CPR face mask and medical gloves).

Other Equipment

- Safety Data Sheets.
- Eyewash station.
- Means to flush skin.
- Handwashing station (water and soap or hand sanitizer).
- Disposable or one time use towels.

BC Poison Control 24-hour line: (604)682-5050 or toll free 1(800)567-8911

First Aid	First Aider is not permitted to conduct treatment unless adequate COVID-19 PPE is available.
Inhalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove worker to fresh air and have them in a rest position for comfortable breathing. • Call BC poison control, 9-1-1 or a doctor if breathing is affected.
Ingestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek immediate medical advice from BC poison control or a doctor. • Never induce vomiting unless instructed by a qualified professional. • Never give anything orally to an unconscious person.
Eye Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep affected eye(s) open and gently rinse for 15-20 minutes. • Remove contact lenses (if applicable) after the first 5 minutes and continue to rinse. • Contact BC poison control or a medical professional for advice.
Skin Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove any contaminated clothing. • Rinse skin immediately with water for 15-20 minutes. • Contact BC poison control or a medical professional for advice.

Canadian Haz-Mat Common Cleaning/Disinfectant Products

- [Clorox Regular Bleach - Safety Data Sheet](#)

Canadian

HAZ  **MAT**

Environmental

- [Benefect Botanical Disinfectant - Safety Data Sheet](#)