



## **COVID-19 Cleaning High Touch Surfaces Guidance**

*Updated March 12, 2020*

### **Clean AND disinfect [frequently touched surfaces](#) daily.**

This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work. Use disinfectants appropriate for the surface.

### **Options for disinfectants include:**

- Diluting your household bleach.
  - To make a bleach solution, mix:
    - 5 tablespoons (1/3<sup>rd</sup> cup) bleach per gallon of water or
    - 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water
  - Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
- Alcohol solutions.
  - Ensure solution has at least 70% alcohol.
- Other common EPA-registered household antimicrobial products.
  - Products with [EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens](#) claims are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

### **How to clean and disinfect:**

- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. Clean hands immediately after gloves are removed.
- If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household antimicrobial products should be effective.
- For 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.
- Disinfect surfaces with an EPA-registered antimicrobial according to the label's safety precautions and use directions. Most EPA-registered antimicrobials have a label contact time of 10 minutes. By law, the user must follow all applicable label instructions on EPA-registered products.