Cleaning & Disinfecting for COVID-19

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Use chemicals safely to reduce spread

Step 1:  
Clean surfaces of dirt and debris.  
Using soap and water removes dirt and debris which allows disinfectants to make good contact with surfaces.

Step 2:  
Disinfect surfaces, especially frequently-touched surfaces.  
Disinfectants are chemicals applied to surfaces to kill bacteria, viruses, and other germs. Look for the word “disinfectant” on the label.

Cleaning and then disinfecting surfaces can reduce the spread of COVID-19. But some disinfectant products can irritate the lungs, skin, and eyes or trigger asthma.

Follow these steps to prevent health problems for you and your family when using these products at home:

- Follow all label directions. Read the product warnings listed under “precautionary statements.”
- Only use the product on surfaces listed under “use sites.”
- Keep disinfectants out of reach of children.
- Never mix two or more products together into one container. Using bleach with other products may release dangerous gases.
- Ensure as much ventilation as possible. Open windows. Run a bathroom or kitchen fan. Keep children in another room.

For more information about cleaning and disinfecting in homes with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 disease:


U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) (https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2)