

# Surface Disinfection with Chlorine (Bleach)

For child care centres



Disinfection is the process of destroying germs on surfaces and objects. Cleaning must occur before bleach disinfection, or the bleach won't work.

## Steps to follow:

1. Clean the area to be disinfected with soap and water then allow to dry.
2. Wet the affected area with mixed bleach/water solution and ensure the area **remains wet** for the required contact time noted below.

## Reminders:

- Prepare fresh bleach solutions daily—add bleach to water. Solutions are based on the use of 5.25% bleach (sodium hypochlorite).
- To prepare other concentrations of bleach please use the [chlorine dilution calculator](#) provided by Public Health Ontario.

**Note: For solutions greater than 200 ppm chlorine, a clean water rinse must be used following disinfection.**

When to use	Concentration	Recipe	Contact time*	Surfaces	
Every day no rinse	200 ppm	Add 1 teaspoon (5 mL) of bleach to 4 cups (1 L) of water	2 minutes	Food contact surfaces	
Every day rinse required	1000 ppm	Add 4 teaspoons (20 mL) of bleach to 4 cups (1 L) of water	5 minutes	Chairs Tables Countertops Door handles Bathroom surfaces Light switches	Toys Diaper change tables Cots Sensory bins Shelving Vinyl covers Play mats
Blood/Body Fluids rinse required	5000 ppm	Add 20 teaspoons (100 milliliters) of bleach to 4 cups (1 litre) of water	10 minutes	Affected area / All surfaces	

ppm = parts per million (used to describe concentrations)

mL – millilitres

L = litres

During times of increased illnesses and/or outbreak, use of 5000 ppm is recommended.

\*Contact times are as recommended by Clorox

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