



Building Blocks of Healthy Child Care

Facility Cleanliness Guide

Whether the room is made up of crawling babies, wandering toddlers or curious kids, it is critical that shared spaces and frequently touched surfaces are kept clean and free of disease-causing germs and viruses. To ensure a safe and healthy environment, use this guide to stay on top of cleaning and disinfecting germ and virus “hot spots.”



Highchairs
Tables
Changing Table
Countertops
Doorknobs
Light Switches
Faucets
Shared Toys

Cleaning 1-2-3's

- ✓ **WHAT:** Visibly dirty surfaces, including lunch tables or craft areas
- ✓ **WHEN:** Daily, after a meal or activity
- ✓ **HOW:** All it takes is soap and water to remove unwanted dirt

Safety 101

- ✓ Don't mix cleaning products.
- ✓ Keep cleaning products in their original containers.
- ✓ Read and follow label directions prior to use of products.
- ✓ Store and dispose of all disinfectants appropriately and out of reach of small children.

Disinfecting A-B-C's

- ✓ **WHAT:** Frequently touched surfaces and objects within the classroom
- ✓ **WHEN:** Daily, at a time when children are not present
- ✓ **HOW:** For visibly dirty surfaces, pre-clean with soap and water or proper surface cleaner. Then disinfect using an EPA-registered disinfectant. Apply product per the manufacturer's directions, leaving on the surface for the entire time indicated.

For food contact surfaces or toys, follow manufacturer's application instructions, then if label directions require, rinse thoroughly with potable water and allow to air dry or dry with a clean towel.

What's the Difference?

Cleaning: Removing unwanted contaminants, such as soil, dirt and grease, from a surface, material, or your hands, using soap and water or a proper surface cleaner.

Sanitizing: Reducing (but not necessarily eliminating) the number of bacteria on the surface to levels considered safe as determined by public health codes or regulations.

Disinfecting: Irreversibly inactivating pathogens (microorganisms that may cause infections and disease) including bacteria, viruses and fungi.

When cleaning, sanitizing or disinfecting, **ALWAYS** follow the directions on the label and do not mix products or chemicals.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention