

DISINFECTING SHARED SPACES

Clean often.

- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces in common areas every day (e.g. tables, doorknobs, light switches, remote controls, toilets, sinks).
- If a person in your facility is ill with COVID-19, they should stay in a room separate from others. Reduce cleaning of this room to limit the time that caregivers spend near the ill person.
- If a separate bathroom is not available, the bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by an ill person.

Use the right supplies.

- For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products and ensure proper ventilation.

Follow recommended procedures.

- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces or when handling laundry from an ill person. Gloves should be discarded after each use.
- If surfaces are visibly dirty, they should be cleaned with soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Do not shake dirty laundry. This will minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Wash clothing in the warmest water allowable. Dirty laundry from an ill person can be washed with other people's items.

Take precautions while cleaning.

- Close off areas used by the ill person and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets.
- Train cleaning staff in the proper use of personal protective equipment.
- Cleaning staff should self-monitor and report any symptoms that arise after coming into contact with contaminated surfaces.