



Sanitizing Guidelines

Pettis County Health Department-Section for Environmental Public Health

Apply the proper sanitizer to clean surfaces, especially frequent touch points, reduces the harmful microorganisms. It is important to use sanitizer in the correct manner.

Wash

rinse

Sanitize

Air Dry

Contact surfaces must be Cleaned, Thoroughly Rinsed and then Sanitized

Surfaces too large or impractical to sanitize in sink or dish machine should have sanitizer Sprayed or wiped on the surface “glistening” and allowed to air-dry.

Types and Concentrations of Sanitizer in parts per million (ppm) concentrations

- Chlorine Bleach 50ppm - 100ppm
1-teaspoon plain unscented chlorine bleach per gallon of water. (do **not** use splash resistant bleach).
Do Not use more than 1 Tablespoon (1 cap full) per gallon of water.
- Quaternary Ammonia 200ppm - 400ppm
Correct Sanitizer levels can be monitored by using the appropriate test strips for Quat. (Ammonia Chlorides).

NEVER MIX AMMONIA AND CHLORINE IT CAN CREATE A LIFE THREATENING DANGEROUS GAS

Factor that Affect Sanitizer Effectiveness:

- ✓ **More is Bad, a Little is Good.** High concentrations can be:
 - Unsafe for you and your family (can cause lung damage, chemical burns, skin damage).
 - Corrosive to some surfaces
 - Leave odors or a bad taste on foods and from surfaces.
- ✓ **Smooth and Easily Cleanable.** Smooth and easily cleanable surfaces are easier to sanitize. Permeable surfaces with cracks or crevices can harbor or protect microorganisms. Surfaces should be smooth and in good repair if possible.
- ✓ **Dirty Surfaces Cannot be Sanitized.** Surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned and rinsed to remove any soap residue before sanitizing. The presence of organic matter dramatically reduces the effectiveness of sanitizers and may totally inactivate them.
- ✓ **More Time - More Effective.** Generally, the longer time a sanitizer is in contact with a surface the more effective it is.
- ✓ **Hotter is Not Better.** When using Chemical Sanitizers high temperatures can cause sanitizers to become less effective due to off gassing which lessens the concentration and increases the hazard of inhalation of dangerous gases.
- ✓ **Air-Dry.** Do Not dry with a towel, let air-dry.
- ✓ **Dirty Sanitizer = No Sanitizer.** Use fresh sanitizer regularly or as needed to ensure effectiveness.