

# GENERAL CLEANING FOR LABS AND ADJOINING OFFICES DURING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION

## Purpose

To provide guidance to researchers on cleaning and disinfecting lab and office spaces to mitigate SARS-CoV-2 (novel coronavirus) spread and COVID-19 (coronavirus disease).

## Disinfectants

Clorox and Lysol products are effective against the novel coronavirus.

Disinfectants can also be made with materials commonly found in the lab:

- Soap and water
- 70% alcohol (e.g. ethanol or isopropanol)
- 10% freshly prepared household bleach (0.5% sodium hypochlorite)



The EPA has provided a list of registered disinfectants effective against SARS-CoV-2: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

**DO NOT spray disinfectant products directly onto surfaces, as this could lead to aerosolization of the virus.**

## Areas to Clean

**Office:** Highly touched surfaces: chairs, desktops, keyboards, monitors, remotes, light switches, elevator buttons, handrails, doors, knobs, door push plates, card readers, refrigerator/freezer doors and handles.

**Lab:** Equipment panels/switches, benchtops; biosafety cabinet and fume hood sashes and their working surfaces; biowaste container lids, commonly used hand tools and small objects (pipettors), shared PPE (laser goggles).

## PPE

Use gloves and eye protection during cleaning.

## Cleaning Tips

- 1) Be sure to have adequate ventilation when using any disinfectant.
- 2) Spray disinfectant directly onto disposable towels to clean surfaces.
- 3) After cleaning, dispose of gloves and immediately wash hands.
- 4) At a minimum, disinfect once a day at the end of each day.



## Waste Disposal

Items used for cleaning can be disposed of in regular trash.

Excess waste from chemical disinfectants should be disposed of as chemical waste appropriately.

## Additional Resources



Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html>



Handwashing Posters  
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/posters.html>



Stanford Guidelines Regarding COVID-19 Contacts  
<https://healthalerts.stanford.edu/covid-19-information-and-resources/covid-19-prevention/>