

Safer Cleaning and Disinfecting in the Age of COVID-19



More cleaning and disinfecting for COVID

=

More possible exposure to harmful chemicals

How to clean and disinfect safely



Don't overuse disinfectants and sanitizers. Cleaning using soap and water is often enough.



Don't use disinfectants on food-contact surfaces, like cutting boards, pots and pans or dishes.



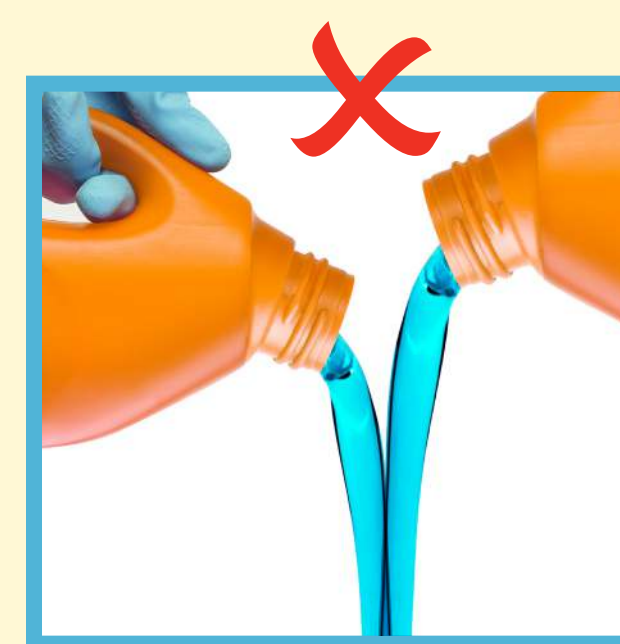
Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Gloves, and even a mask and glasses, will help prevent harmful chemicals from coming in contact with skin and being inhaled.



Open the windows and turn on the fan. Good ventilation is key to avoid inhaling harmful chemicals.



Spray. Wait... Wait some more. Wipe. A chemical needs a specific amount of contact time to be effective. Read and follow the label carefully.



Never mix chemicals! Certain chemical combinations will result in noxious fumes that can kill! Never mix bleach with anything except water.

Avoid these harmful chemicals

BLEACH
AMMONIA
QUATS
(Quaternary Ammonium Compounds)
Avoid a product if you see “-onium chloride” on the label



NEVER mix cleaning chemicals, especially BLEACH!

Safer Alternatives

Isopropyl alcohol or ethyl alcohol
Hydrogen peroxide
Hypochlorous acid
Citric acid
Lactic acid

Find the Toxics Use Reduction Institute's List of Safer Disinfecting Products here:

www.turi.org/saferdisinfectants



Developed under a grant from the Toxics Use Reduction Institution at UMass Lowell.