

Disinfecting

in a Child Care Centre



REMEMBER: You must clean with soap and water before disinfecting.

Level of Disinfection	Disinfectant and Active Ingredient*	Contact Time*	Use
High Kills everything except bacterial spores <i>Examples:</i> chlorine bleach 1:10 solution, accelerated hydrogen peroxide	Chlorine** e.g. Household Bleach (5.25% Chlorine) 1:10 solution, Javex®, Clorox®, Zochlor®	10 minutes for a household bleach solution or follow manufacturer's instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be used during an outbreak situation • Recommended for any confirmed case of viral or bacterial infection • Blood spills, vomit, body fluids, fecal contamination
	7% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide** e.g. Virox®	Follow manufacturer's instructions	
Low Kills most vegetative bacteria, some fungi as well as enveloped viruses <i>Examples:</i> chlorine bleach 1:100 solution, quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATs), iodophors, alcohol, accelerated hydrogen peroxide	Chlorine** e.g. Household Bleach (5.25% Chlorine) 1:100 solution, Javex®, Clorox®, Zochlor®	Two minutes for a household bleach solution or follow manufacturer's instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental surfaces: floors, walls, washrooms, countertops, tables • Toys • Diaper change area • Potty chairs
	QUATs** e.g. Quato 78 Plus™, A-3®	Follow manufacturer's instructions	
	70-95% Isopropyl Alcohol**	10 minutes	
	0.5% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide** e.g. Virox®	Follow manufacturer's instructions	
	Other** e.g. Benefect®	Follow manufacturer's instructions	

For equipment not mentioned in this chart please refer to the manufacturer's recommendations for cleaning and disinfection practices.

* For each chemical brand, ensure the manufacturer's recommended instructions are followed (i.e. concentration and contact times) and ensure product is not expired.

** York Region Community and Health Services Department does not endorse any of the brand named products listed. This list is not a complete list of all products sold, it only represents examples of products being used in child care centres.

Disinfecting Tips

Process

- Clean all surfaces with soap and water before they are disinfected.
- Test your disinfectant **daily** with the appropriate disinfectant test strip to ensure maximum effectiveness. Disinfectant solutions that are not at the required concentration must be discarded and replaced with a freshly mixed solution.
- Do not store a household bleach solution for more than one week.
- When using a "quat", iodine or chlorine compound, test it with the appropriate test strips to ensure the correct concentration (e.g., for bleach and water, use chlorine test strips to verify the disinfectant level).

- Follow the appropriate contact time listed above. This allows the disinfectant to effectively reduce the number of organisms on a surface.

Storage

- Keep your disinfecting solution out of the reach of children.
- Store all chemicals in an area that is inaccessible to children.
- Label the bottle clearly with the chemical name.
- Write the mixing directions directly on the bottle.

How do I get the correct concentration of chlorine?

- Always remember to consult your Health and Safety staff member if you have any questions about handling chemicals.
- Follow these steps when mixing household bleach (5.25% chlorine) and water to use as a disinfectant ▶



A DILUTION OF 1:10 (5,000 ppm†) — HIGH LEVEL DISINFECTANT (ONE PART BLEACH TO NINE PARTS WATER)

Mix one cup of bleach with nine cups of water OR
 Mix 1/4 cup (62 mL) of bleach with 2 1/4 cups (562 mL) of water

A DILUTION OF 1:100 (500 ppm†) — LOW LEVEL DISINFECTANT

Mix two teaspoons (10 mL) of bleach in four cups (one litre) of water OR
 Mix 1/4 cup (50 mL) of bleach in one gallon (five litres) of water

† Parts per million

For more information, call **Health Connection** at **1-800-361-5653**
TTY: 1-866-252-9933 or visit our website at **www.york.ca**