

# Two-Step Cleaning and Sanitizing

Cleaning is the removal of food and debris from a surface. Cleaning alone does not consistently reduce contamination to safe levels. Surfaces must be cleaned AND sanitized after each use to reduce the number of illness causing microorganisms to acceptable levels.

## Cleaning Surfaces

- Scrub the surface with soap/detergent and water or commercially-prepared disinfectant-detergent pre-moistened wipes.
- Wipe the surface with fresh water to remove soap and other residue.

## Selecting an Appropriate Sanitizer or Disinfectant

Chlorine bleach solution is the most commonly used sanitizer. The solution must be prepared daily. Do not use ultra, scented, splashless or color-safe bleach.

A product that is not chlorine bleach can be used in child care settings if ALL of the following apply:

1. It is registered with the EPA.
2. It is described as a sanitizer or as a disinfectant.
3. It is used according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Check the label to see how long you need to leave the sanitizer or disinfectant in contact with the surface you are treating, whether you need to rinse it off before contact by children, for any precautions when handling, and whether it can be used on a surface that may come in contact with child's mouth.

## Sanitizing Surfaces

- Wet entire surface until glistening or if commercially-prepared disinfectant-detergent pre-moistened wipe was used, a second wipe may be used for sanitizing.
- Leave solution on surface until air dried.
- OR, follow manufacturer's label instructions.

## Approved Methods of Sanitizer Application

### WIPING CLOTHS STORED IN CONTAINERS

- Store out of children's reach, away from food and children's items. Secure so the container does not tip or spill.
- Store wiping cloths in a container between uses.
- Properly label containers.
- Replace solution daily, when the concentration gets weak or the solution becomes cloudy.

### SPRAY BOTTLES

- Store out of children's reach, away from food and children's items.
- Store in a secondary container, if necessary.
- Properly label the spray bottle with "sanitizer" or name of chemical.
- Never spray around open food or children's personal items, avoiding a fine mist.
- Replace solutions daily.

### WIPES/COMMERCIALY PREPARED SOLUTIONS

- Follow the manufacturer's label instructions.

# Quaternary Solution

**General Purpose, Toys, Diaper Area**

**= 400 ppm\***



**Food Contact Surfaces, Mouth  
Contact Items, Infant Toys**

**= 200 ppm\***



\*Strength and usage per manufacturer's instructions on the label

# Bleach Solution

**General Purpose, Toys, Diaper Area**

**= 200 ppm**

1/4 cup bleach per 1 gallon cool water - OR -  
1 tablespoon bleach per 1 quart (32 oz.) cool water



**Food Contact Surfaces, Mouth  
Contact Items, Infant Toys**

**= 50-100 ppm**

1 tablespoon bleach per 1 gallon cool water - OR -  
3/4 tablespoon bleach per 1 quart (32 oz.) cool water

