

Using Disinfecting Wipes at School



What disinfectants can be used on hard surfaces to kill the virus that causes COVID-19?

Antimicrobial Pesticides



- Disinfectants – approved by EPA to be effective against specific viruses.
- EPA List N for Emerging Pathogens – lists disinfectants for use for COVID-19 on surfaces.

See fact sheet
"Choosing Safer
Disinfectants" from the
EPA List N.

What are disinfectant wipes?



- Disposable material soaked in disinfectant.

While wipes are convenient, if used incorrectly, they can spread germs, give a false sense of security that surfaces are disinfected, and cause unnecessary exposures.

What should wipes not be used for?



- They are NOT handwipes or baby wipes, and should NOT be used on skin.
- They should NOT be used on produce, or have contact with food.

How can I safely and effectively use wipes?

1. Protect hands - put on chemical resistant gloves, even if label doesn't mention it.
2. Wash and rinse surface to enable disinfectant to be in direct contact with germs.
3. Shake wipe container with lid securely on to wet wipes with any liquid that settled.
4. Disinfectants only work when wet! Use enough wipes to keep surface wet for the "contact time" listed on label, which can vary by product and type of germ. Use wipe(s) *only once on one surface* to prevent spreading germs around.
5. Rinse surface if it will be in contact with skin or food, and label directs you to do so.

Who can use wipes in school?

- Only adults should use disinfecting wipes.
- Children under 18 should NOT use wipes.



Where can I get more information?



www.informedgreensolutions.org

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Reduction Institute, UMass, Lowell



Sources: NPIC, 1.800.858.7378, npic@ace.orst.edu
Health News, 6/3/08 Study Antibacterial wipes can spread superbugs, Michael Kahn

