

Special Instructions for Mixing Bleach Solution

- Follow the directions on the *Disinfecting and Sanitizing with Bleach Guidelines for Mixing Bleach Solutions for Child Care and Similar Environments* ([below](#)).
- Post the *Disinfecting and Sanitizing with Bleach Guidelines for Mixing Bleach Solutions for Child Care and Similar Environments* where the solutions will be mixed.
- Wear gloves and goggles when mixing bleach solutions and mix in sink.
- Solutions must be prepared daily (See DOH 970-216 January, 2015 for Licensed Child Care).

How to Determine Chlorine Bleach strength:

- Read the fine print on the label
- The active ingredients may be listed on the back or front of the container's label, and listed in a similar manner to the example below showing the strength or percent of chlorine in a container of 8.25% bleach.

- Example:

- Active Ingredients
Sodium Hypochlorite....8.25%
Other ingredients.....91.75%
Total -----100%

Disinfecting and Sanitizing with Bleach

Guidelines for Mixing Bleach Solutions for Child Care and Similar Environments

Preparation Tips

- **Prepare** a fresh bleach solution each day in a well-ventilated area that is separate from children.
- **Label** bottles of bleach solution with contents, ratio and date mixed.
- **Use cool water. Always add** bleach to cool water, **NOT** water to bleach.
- **Wear** gloves and eye protection.
- **Prepare** solution in an area with an eye wash.

Disinfecting Solutions

For use on diaper change tables, hand washing sinks, bathrooms (including toilet bowls, toilet seats, training rings, soap dispensers, potty chairs), door and cabinet handles, etc.

Water	Bleach Strength* 2.75%	Bleach Strength* 5.25-6.25%	Bleach Strength* 8.25%
1 Gallon	1/3 Cup, plus 1 Tablespoon	3 Tablespoons	2 Tablespoons
1 Quart	1 1/2 Tablespoons	2 1/4 Teaspoons	1 1/2 Teaspoons

Sanitizing Solutions

For use on eating utensils, food use contact surfaces, mixed use tables, high chair trays, crib frames and mattresses, toys, pacifiers, floors, sleep mats, etc.

1 Gallon	1 Tablespoon	2 Teaspoons	1 Teaspoon
1 Quart	1 Teaspoon	1/2 Teaspoon	1/4 Teaspoon

Disinfection of non-porous non-food contact surfaces can be achieved with 600 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine bleach. To make measuring easier, the strengths listed in this table represent approximately 600-800 ppm of bleach for disinfecting, and approximately 100 ppm for sanitizing. Chlorine test strips with a measuring range of 0-800 ppm or higher can also be used to determine the strength of the solution.

Contact your local health jurisdiction for further instructions on cleaning and disinfecting if specific disease or organisms are identified as causing illness in your program.

***Use only plain unscented bleach** that lists the percent (%) strength on the manufacturer's label. Read the label on the bleach bottle to determine the bleach strength. For example, Sodium Hypochlorite...6.25% or 8.25%.

Steps to Follow

- **Clean** the surface with soap and water before disinfecting or sanitizing.
- **Rinse** with clean water and dry with paper towel.
- **Apply** chlorine bleach and water solution to the entire area to be disinfected or sanitized.
- **Air dry** for at least 2 minutes.

This chart was created by the Disinfection Workgroup led by the Washington State Department of Health. Workgroup members consist of staff from the Department of Early Learning, Snohomish Health District, Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, Washington State Department of Ecology, the Coalition for Safety and Health in Early Learning, and the Washington State Department of Health.

For people with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats.
To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY call 711).