Without washing and sanitizing, the COVID-19 virus has been shown to last on:

- Glass and hard plastics: 2-5 days
- Metal: 3-5 days
- Wood: 4 days

Cleaning of visibly soiled surfaces followed by disinfection is recommended for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses.

**CLEANING**

The physical removal of visible soiling (e.g. dust, soil, blood, mucus). Cleaning removes, rather than kills, viruses and bacteria.

DONE WITH:

- Water and detergent (e.g. liquid dishwashing soap)
- Common household cleaning wipes
- Good physical cleaning practices (i.e. steady friction and strong action from cleaning cloth on surfaces)

**DISINFECTING**

The killing of viruses and bacteria.
A disinfectant is only applied to objects, never on the human body.

DONE WITH:

- Common households disinfectants such as ready-to-use disinfecting wipes and pre-made solutions (no dilution needed)

Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions printed on the bottle.

All visibly soiled surfaces should be cleaned before disinfection.

A 1:100 dilution of chlorine:household bleach (sodium hypochlorite 5.25%)—e.g. 10 ml bleach to 990ml water—can be used to disinfect surfaces.

- Make fresh daily and allow surface to air dry naturally
- Consider less toxic alternatives to bleach when near water (e.g. hydrogen peroxide, biodegradeable disinfectants)
- A list of hard-surface disinfectants that are likely to be effective and may be used against SARS-CoV-2 can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html

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