

Disinfecting and Sanitizing Solution

How Does it Need to be Stored?



Registered and Certified Family Care

PRODUCT	May be stored out of reach of children anywhere in the program	Must be stored under child safety lock	May be stored out of reach in diaper changing areas ONLY. Must be stored under child safety lock in all other child care areas.
Bleach and Water Sanitizing Solutions	X		
All Other Sanitizing Solutions		X	
Bleach and Water Disinfecting Solutions		X	
All other Disinfecting Solutions		X	
Soap and Water Cleaning Solution	X		
All Other Cleaning Solutions		X	

Certified Center Only

PRODUCT	May be stored out of reach of children anywhere in the program	Must be stored under child safety lock	May be stored out of reach in diaper changing areas ONLY. Must be stored under child safety lock in all other child care areas.
Bleach and Water Sanitizing Solutions	X		
All Other Sanitizing Solutions		X	
Bleach and Water Disinfecting Solutions			X
All Other Disinfecting Solutions			X
Soap and Water Cleaning Solution	X		
All Other Cleaning Solutions			X

OCC Licensing and Provider Practice

Cleaning solutions made of soap and water may be kept out of reach anywhere in the program. All other cleaning solutions must be stored under child safety lock.

Sanitizing solution made from bleach and water in any areas of the licensed facility may be stored out of reach of children and does not need to be stored under a child safety lock. All other sanitizing solutions must be stored under child safety lock.

Because disinfecting a changing table immediately after changing a diaper is important to prevent the spread of germs, OCC allows disinfectant solutions to be kept out of reach of children in Certified Centers' diaper changing areas only. All disinfectant solutions in other areas of the program must be stored under child safety lock.

Related Rules

CC 414-300-0180(5)(C): A sanitizing solution shall be kept in each diaper changing area ready for immediate use. This solution need not be stored in a locked cabinet but must be out of children's reach.

CF 414-350-0170(9): Items of potential danger (e.g., cleaning supplies and equipment, paints, poisonous and toxic materials, plastic bags, aerosols, detergents) shall be: (b) Stored under child-proof lock.

RF 414-205-0110(1): Children shall be protected from fire and safety hazards. Providers must have the following protections in place: (k) Cleaning supplies, paints, matches, lighters, and plastic bags kept under child-safety lock.

More Information

The terms *cleaning*, *sanitizing* and *disinfecting* are sometimes used interchangeably which can lead to confusion and result in cleaning procedures that are not effective or stored properly.

For example, if there is visible soil on a table surface, *clean* it with soap and water before spraying the surface with a sanitizer. Using a sanitizer or disinfectant as this “first step” is not effective because the purpose of the solution is to either *sanitize* or *disinfect*. Each term has a specific purpose and there are many methods that may be used to achieve such purpose.

When bleach is used for sanitizing or disinfecting, a test kit that measures the parts per million concentration of the solution should be used to ensure the proper concentration.

Clean	To remove dirt and debris by scrubbing and washing with a soapy solution and rinsing with water. The friction of cleaning removes most germs and exposes any remaining germs to the effects of a sanitizer or disinfectant used later.
Sanitize	To reduce germs on inanimate surfaces to levels considered safe.
Disinfect	To destroy or inactivate most germs on any inanimate object, but not bacterial spores.

Common items that require sanitizing after each use: Food preparation surfaces; tables and high chair trays; counter tops; pacifiers/mouthed toys

Common items that require disinfecting after each use: Changing tables; potty chairs

Other Resources:

CFOC Use, Location and Setup of Diaper Changing Areas: <https://nrckids.org/CFOC/Database/5.4.2.4>. (CFOC, 3.3.0, 2020).

OHA Sanitizing and Disinfecting in Child Care:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYPEOPLEFAMILIES/BABIES/HEALTHCHILDCARE/Pages/sanitize.aspx>