

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Make Your Own Bleach Sanitizer

Make disinfecting cleaner at home if you are out or cannot find it at the store. Use it to sanitize surfaces such as tables, counters, floors, doorknobs, toilets, showers, faucets, and sinks.

Supplies needed



1 quart (or 4 cups) of room temperature water



4 teaspoons of regular, unscented household bleach



Small bucket or spray bottle



Masking tape



Ink pen



Rubber cleaning gloves



Cleaning rag or towel

How to make bleach sanitizer at home

- Place bucket or spray bottle on a flat surface.
- Add water to bucket or spray bottle.
- Carefully pour the correct amount of regular, unscented household bleach into the container. If using a spray bottle, consider using a funnel to safely pour the bleach into the bottle.
- Label the sanitizer. With the ink pen, write “sanitizer” or “bleach cleaner” on the masking tape, and attach tape to the bucket or spray bottle containing the bleach mixture.

Using your sanitizer

- Clean all surfaces that need sanitizing with soapy water **BEFORE** using sanitizer on that surface. Food particles, soiled or sticky surfaces, and other contamination can deactivate the bleach in your sanitizer.
- Put on rubber cleaning gloves. The gloves help protect your hands, since bleach is irritating to skin.

- Sanitize the surfaces:

From a spray bottle: spray sanitizer directly onto the pre-cleaned surfaces.

From a bucket: dip a clean cloth into sanitizer and lightly wring out excess before applying to surfaces.

- Allow sanitizer to air dry.

Safety tips

- Make your sanitizer with room temperature water. Hot water will deactivate the bleach in your sanitizing solution.
- Follow the manufacturer’s safety instructions when working with bleach.
- Never mix bleach with ammonia.
- Make a new bleach sanitizer each day.
- Keep small children and pets away from sanitized surfaces until the surfaces are dry.

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