

This document provides guidance to those managing and working on NSW Health Infrastructure sites across NSW on cleaning and disinfection of space associated with the site including site offices, staff amenities and buildings under construction.

ABOUT COVID-19

The virus is spread by respiratory droplets of an infected person to others with whom they have close contact such as people who live in the same household or provide care. It can survive on different surfaces but can be killed by most cleaners and disinfectants. The additional controls needed in selected hospitals rooms (such as negative pressure environments) are not required on a construction site.

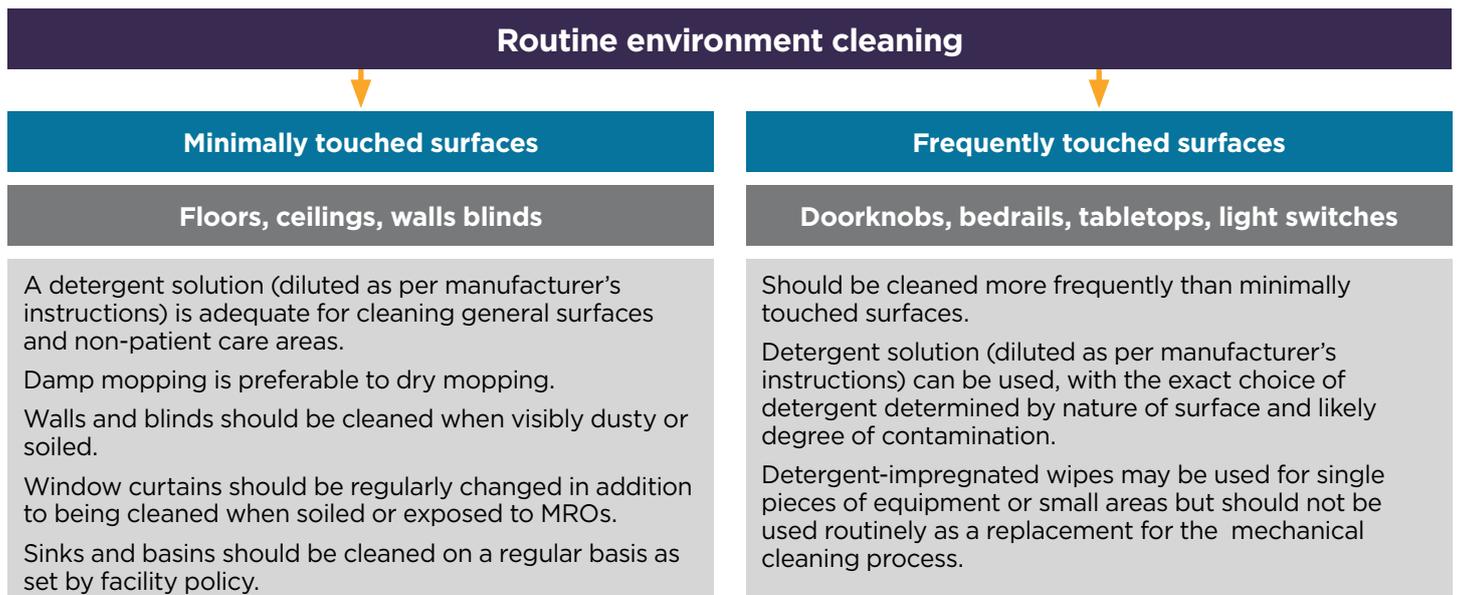
A training resource has been developed by the Australian Government and covers the fundamentals of infection prevention and control for COVID-19. This training can be accessed at:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>

CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS

Coronaviruses can survive on surfaces for many hours or more but are readily inactivated by cleaning and disinfection. It is good practice to routinely clean surfaces as follows:

- Clean frequently touched surfaces with detergent solution (see diagram below).
- Clean general surfaces and fittings when visibly soiled and immediately after any spillage



Adapted from *Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019)*.
Canberra: National Health and Medical Research Council (2019).

CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES

Commonly used cleaning products and disinfectants are effective against COVID-19. Frequently touched surfaces are most likely to be contaminated. The use of hospital grade disinfectants is recommended and the manufacturer's instructions should be followed.

RECOMMENDED APPROACHES TO CLEANING INCLUDE:

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Disposable gloves should always be worn while cleaning the room, toilets and other common areas, and when handling cleaning and disinfecting solutions. Dispose of gloves if they become damaged or soiled or when cleaning is completed. Never wash or reuse the gloves.

Routine cleaning

- Clean surfaces as usual with a neutral detergent and water.
 - If cleaning cloths are re-used they should be laundered in a hot water wash.
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Disinfection of special areas (frequently touched)

- In addition to routine cleaning, the following surfaces in the room which are commonly touched should be disinfected.
 - Clean the surface first with a neutral detergent and water, and then apply the disinfectant as instructed on the disinfectant manufacturer's label. Ensure the recommended contact time occurs. Allow to dry completely.
 - Commonly touched surfaces include but are not limited to door handles, light switches, armrests of chairs, telephones, remote controls, bathrooms fixtures (door handles, locks, toilet seats, toilet flushes, taps, wash basins, counters and showers)
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Management of body fluids

- Cleaning staff should wear an impervious disposable gown or apron, gloves and eye protection when there are body fluids to clean up
 - Any body fluids should first be removed from visibly contaminated surfaces by using an absorbent material, which should then be disposed of as described in a sturdy, leak-proof plastic bag
 - Hard, non-porous surfaces must then be cleaned and disinfected as described above
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Waste disposal

Dispose of all waste, including PPE in sturdy, leak-proof plastic bags that is tied shut and not reopened. The waste can be disposed of normally.

Kitchen crockery and cutlery

Wash reusable dishes and cutlery in a dishwasher with detergent or hand wash with hot water and detergent.

Hand hygiene after cleaning

- When cleaning is completed all PPE should be removed and safely disposed of in a sturdy, leak-proof plastic bag that is tied shut and not reopened
 - Immediately wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds before drying with a paper towel. Be careful not to touch the face before washing hands.
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