

# Disinfecting Your Scale and Indicator

The first thing to remember is that cleaning is not the same as disinfecting. By cleaning, germs and dirt are removed from surfaces, but germs are not killed. Removing them only decreases the number of germs and helps to reduce the risk of spreading infections.

On the other hand, by disinfecting your scale (indicator) we kill microorganisms by using chemical products. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces. Killing germs on the surface after cleaning has been done can further decrease the risk of spreading infectious diseases.

With this in mind, you need to carry out regular cleaning of your scale (indicator), and then disinfect it using an appropriate disinfecting product for the type of surface.



**CAUTION:** When cleaning and disinfecting, individuals should wear disposable gloves compatible with the products being used as well as any other PPE required according to the cleaning and disinfecting product manufacturer's instructions.

1. For frequently touched electronic surfaces, such as indicator keypads and touch screens, remove visible dirt, then disinfect using alcohol-based wipes containing at least 70% alcohol.
2. For hard non-porous surfaces such as hard seats, armrests, and metal support handles, clean with a mild detergent or soap and water if the surfaces are visibly dirty, before disinfectant application.
  - After cleaning, use any of the products contained on the EPA's List N for products to kill the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) that are suitable for hard non-porous surfaces. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, and contact time for all cleaning and disinfection products. Click on the link below to proceed to the EPA's website to search and view the list.  
[EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2](#)
  - Dilute household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, if appropriate for the surface. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. **IMPORTANT! Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.**
  - Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.
3. For soft or porous surfaces such as seat and back cushions, padded handles, and armrests, clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.
  - After cleaning, use any of the products contained on the EPA's List N for products to kill the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) that are suitable for porous surfaces. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, and contact time for all cleaning and disinfection products. Click on the link below to proceed to the EPA's website to search and view the list.  
[EPA's Registered Antimicrobial Products for Use Against Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2](#)
  - Disinfect with wipes that contain at least a 70% alcohol solution.