

**XTR**



**Steri-Z**

**HIGH LEVEL  
DISINFECTANT  
CLEANER**

**REACTIVE  
BARRIER  
TECHNOLOGY  
PROTECTION  
BETWEEN CLEANS**

**KILLS PATHOGENS  
99.9999%  
WITHIN SECONDS**

**BIOSECURITY FOR YOUR  
CHILDREN'S TOYS AND PLAY AREAS**



## Children's toys and play areas

Kids love toys and play equipment. They're fun and educational. However, mucky hands, bodily fluids and the simple fact that kids love to stick almost anything in their mouths mean that they can become contaminated with germs.

Although germs won't grow without water, enough may survive on the surface of a toy to present a risk of infection. To help reduce the risk make sure that:

When you buy toys and play equipment for use in the nursery, it can be cleaned easily (soft toys should be machine washable)

Everything is cleaned on a rota system as frequently as practical and whenever visibly dirty (particularly in an under-two's room where children are likely to stick things in their mouths)

Toys are stored, clean and dry, in clean containers or cupboards.

You should clean hard toys and equipment with detergent and hot water, rinse them in clean, running water and then allow them to dry. If you can't, wipe away any visible dirt and then wipe the surfaces with a suitable disinfectant (antibacterial surface wipes are pretty good). You can usually clean soft toys by putting them in a washing machine, but check the washing instructions first.

Toys contaminated with blood or body fluids need to be decontaminated right away. If there is an outbreak of infection, you should decontaminate all the toys anyway to prevent any further spread.

### To decontaminate hard toys:

- Clean every surface of the toy using detergent, hot water and a brush.

- Immerse the toy in a disinfectant solution or wipe it with disinfectant wipes.
- Rinse away any disinfectant with clean water and allow the toy to dry

Alternatively, you can decontaminate hard toys by putting them in a washing machine or even a dishwasher. You can decontaminate soft toys by putting them in the washing machine on a hot wash, (although if a contaminated soft toy won't take a hot wash, throw it away).

Every now and then you may need to suspend certain types of communal play (e.g. sand or water play) to help prevent the spread of specific infections. The CCDC can advise you about this.

### Always

- Check toys regularly for rough edges and breaks, and discard any that are damaged
- Empty paddling pools after use and store deflated or inverted
- Drain, clean with detergent and dry any receptacles used in water play after use
- Protect sandpits from contamination by using a cover, and change the sand regularly
- Wash and dry your hands after handling contaminated toys
- Make sure that children wash and dry their hands after water or sand play, or time spent in a ball pool
- Replace soft modelling materials regularly and whenever they look dirty
- Carry out risk assessments on activities and the environment in which they take place

### Never

- Put dirty toys back into storage
- Allow toys to remain outdoors overnight
- Allow pets to share toys or foul the play area.

### Activities

1. If they are old enough, get the children to take responsibility for their toys themselves. Show them how to look after them. Check toys regularly and urge children to tell you if toys need cleaning.

2. Teach children to store their toys properly. Explain that putting toys away not only prevents them from being lost, stolen or damaged, but also prevents others from injuring themselves on them

# BIOSECURITY

## Floors and other surfaces

On the whole, a good vacuuming backed by cleaning with detergent and water is more than enough for a daily hygiene regimen.

Obviously, any dust, dirt and visible mould should be wiped away and all your surfaces should be cleaned and then kept dry and well maintained.

Although you don't need to go as far as decontamination every day, as children tend to crawl or play on floors, it is well worth cleaning and decontaminating your floors regularly.

Any and all spills of blood, faeces, urine, vomit, saliva, nasal and eye discharges must be removed immediately using disposable paper towels. You should then clean and decontaminate any soiled surfaces wearing proper protective clothing (e.g. disposable gloves and an apron) and seal all the waste in a plastic bag for disposal.

Decontaminate hard surfaces (e.g. tiled walls, hard furniture or linoleum flooring), after cleaning using a suitable disinfectant that kills both bacteria and viruses. Carefully follow the instructions for use.

You should not use disinfectants to decontaminate carpets and upholstery; these should be steam cleaned. If clothing or other fabrics are soiled, remove them carefully and, if necessary, seal them in a plastic bag until you (or the parent) can decontaminate them in a hot wash. If you can't decontaminate a soiled item properly, discard it.

### Never

- Use mops to clean spills of blood or body fluids
- Use bleach on carpets or wooden surfaces, or in confined, unventilated areas
- Use bleach directly on urine spills

### Always

- Keep every surface clean and dry
- Clean and decontaminate floors where young children play or crawl on a regular basis
- Wear disposable gloves and an apron if you have to deal with blood or body fluids
- Remove blood or body fluids immediately, using disposable paper towels, then clean and decontaminate any soiled surfaces
- Wash and dry your hands afterwards
- Make sure that children can never reach any cleaning products or disinfectants at all

## Activities

1. Check that the disinfectants you use are suitable for the surfaces in your nursery. Read the labels carefully.
2. Think about how you can ensure that staff have immediate access to the equipment needed to clear spills of blood or body fluids. Consider providing a 'spill kit' in each room.

For more information please contact us:

**sales@pestfix.co.uk** or call **01903 538488**

<https://www.pestfix.co.uk/steri-7-biosecurity-products.asp>



**USE DISINFECTANTS SAFELY - Always read the label and product information before use.**

**Never Mix STERI-7 with other products or chemicals.**