

Household Cleaners & Disinfectants

More than 90% of poisonings happen inside the home. Household cleaners and disinfectants are one of the leading causes of household poisonings.

Poison Help calls related to exposure to cleaners & disinfectants increased more than 20% in 2020¹.

JAN-MAR 2019

37,822

JAN-MAR 2020

45,550

BLEACHES

+62.1%NON-ALCOHOL
DISINFECTANTS**+36.7%**

HAND SANITIZERS

+36.7%

CLEANER & DISINFECTANT SAFETY

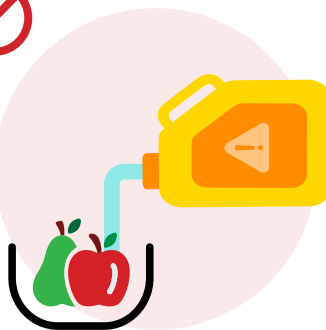
Keep your family safe by using the following tips for using and storing cleaners and disinfectants in your home.

DON'T:



DO NOT mix bleach with household cleaners.

Mixing bleach with cleaners or other chemicals may produce chlorine gas, which can cause serious injury if inhaled or absorbed through the skin. Do not mix bleach with anything but water.



DO NOT wash food products with bleach or disinfectants.

Chemicals may seep into your food and end up in your body. Wash fruits and vegetables with clean water only. Keep counters and surfaces clean and wash your hands after handling food.



DO NOT inhale, ingest, or apply bleach, household cleaners, or disinfectants to bare skin.

NEVER drink, eat, or wash or spray your skin with bleach or other household chemicals no matter how diluted they are.

DO:

- Store household chemicals and cleaners in their original containers
- Follow all product label instructions carefully
- Keep cleaners and other poisonous chemicals out of reach of children

¹ Chang A, Schnall AH, Law R, et al. Cleaning and Disinfectant Chemical Exposures and Temporal Associations with COVID-19 — National Poison Data System, United States, January 1, 2020–March 31, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:496–498. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6916e1external icon>

For more information about potential poisons, or if you're experiencing a poison emergency...

**Don't Guess.
Make the Call.**

- 1 Call **9-1-1** if the person is unconscious or has trouble breathing.
- 2 Call **Poison Help (1-800-222-1222)** to connect to your local poison center.
- 3 Stay calm—most poisoning emergencies can be resolved quickly.

Hand Sanitizers

More than 90% of poisonings happen inside the home. Household cleaners and disinfectants are one of the leading causes of household poisonings.

Poison Help calls related to hand sanitizers went up by 79% in 2020.

HAND SANITIZER SAFETY

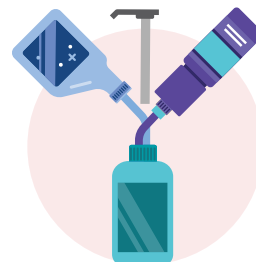
Hand sanitizer is regulated by the FDA as an over-the-counter drug so you should always follow all product label instructions and warnings. Follow these additional tips to help keep your family safe and germ free.



DO NOT drink hand sanitizer.



DO NOT use hand sanitizer on pets.



DO NOT attempt to make your own hand sanitizer.



Keep hand sanitizer out of your eyes.



Keep hand sanitizer away from open flames.



Always use hand sanitizer in a well-ventilated area.

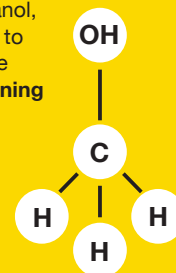
HAND SANITIZERS & CHILDREN

A majority of Poison Center calls related to hand sanitizer exposure involved children 5 and younger. Colorful bottles, scents, and flavors may entice children to drink hand sanitizer. Even a small amount can cause alcohol poisoning in young children.

- Always **supervise** children using hand sanitizer.
- Keep hand sanitizer bottles out of reach of children.
- If your child ingests hand sanitizer, call the Poison Help line (1-800-222-1222) immediately.

BEWARE OF METHANOL

Some hand sanitizer products contain methanol, a substance often used to make fuel and antifreeze that can be **life-threatening** if ingested or absorbed through the skin.



Consult the FDA's list of recalled hand sanitizer products at www.fda.gov/handsanitizerlist.

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