

Disinfectant Safety Checklist

Green Certifications

Don't be misled by unregulated green logos. Product environmental preferability claims should be validated by credible third party certifications that have been designed to ensure strict standards are followed in the formulation of cleaning and disinfectant products. Today there are both industry and government requirements to be labeled a "green" product.



Green Seal



EcoLogo



Green Guard



DfE

Certified Green Logos

Chemistries

Some disinfectant chemistries leave behind toxic residues which can build up in the environment over time. Residues from active ingredients can create harmful byproducts, have high aquatic toxicity and contribute to antimicrobial resistance. Products should be bio-based and biodegradable or based on naturally occurring ingredients.

Consider Looking for Products that Contain:

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide®
Hydrogen Peroxide
Peracetic Acid
Citric Acid
Lactic Acid
Ethanol/Isopropyl Alcohol *

Avoid

Chlorine releasing agents (e.g. Bleach)
Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QUATs)*
Phenols

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Some disinfectants contain VOCs which negatively contribute to indoor air pollution.

Avoid

Alcohol and aldehyde based disinfectants
Disinfectants with added fragrances

Safety

A good way to get an idea of a product's safety profile is to look at the products Safety Data Sheet.

*If using a concentrated disinfectant look for the SDS for the diluted product as this is the concentration used by housekeeping staff.

Sections of Interest

Section 2: Hazards Identification

Products that have a low toxicity profile will not be classified under any GHS hazard class. Pay special attention to any signal words, pictograms or precautionary statements.

Section 11: Toxicological Information

Products that will have a negative impact on skin, eyes or respiratory system will not be classified under any GHS criteria.

Section 16: Other Information

Some manufacturers will include the products HMIS (Hazardous Materials Identification System) rating. Products with a rating of 0/0/0 should be considered.

Asthma Safe

Some disinfectants are known respiratory sensitizers which can lead to the development of asthma

Avoid:

Bleach
Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QUATs)

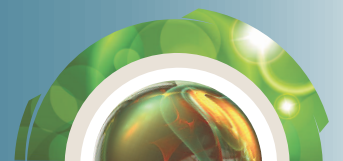
Germicidal Efficacy

A disinfectant that is responsible should not sacrifice germicidal efficacy. Look for disinfectants with a broad spectrum of efficacy so your facility is protected against pathogens of concern.

Efficacy Claims

Bactericidal
Virucidal (enveloped and non-enveloped viruses)

* Isopropyl alcohol, Ethanol, and Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QUATs) are all chemistries that can be green third party certified. However, Isopropyl alcohol and ethanol are known Volatile Organic Compounds, and QUATs leave behind active residues that build up and can lead to antibiotic resistance and are a known asthmagen.



Disinfectant Safety Checklist

How Safe is Your Disinfectant?

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Does your disinfectant have certified Green Logos? | <input type="checkbox"/> EcoLogo | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Seal |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Guard | <input type="checkbox"/> DfE |
| Does your disinfectant utilize an active that readily biodegrades and does not leave behind active residues? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant chlorine free? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant QUAT free? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant phenol free? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant free from VOCs? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant free from any signal words, pictograms or precautionary statements according to section 2 of your products in-use solution SDS? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant non-irritating to the eyes according to section 11 of your products in-use solution SDS? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant non-irritating to skin according to section 11 of your products in-use solution SDS? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant non-respiratory sensitizing according to section 11 of your products SDS? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Does your disinfectant have a HMIS rating of 0/0/0 according to your products SDS? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant effective against vegetative bacteria such as Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Staphylococcus aureus? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant effective against enveloped viruses such as Influenza? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |
| Is your disinfectant effective against non-enveloped viruses such as Rhinovirus and Norovirus? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> NO ✗ |

