



Footbaths - Infection Prevention and Control

Do footbaths have to be cleaned and disinfected between clients?

- Yes. Footbaths must be cleaned and disinfected between clients.
- Footbaths must also be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day.

Does the footbath screen have to be removed, cleaned and disinfected?

- Yes. If the footbath is **pipeless** or **non-recirculating**, then the screen must be cleaned and disinfected **between clients**.
- If the footbath **has pipes** or is **recirculating**, then the screen must be removed, cleaned and disinfected at the **end of each day**.

How do you clean and disinfect a pipeless footbath?

Between clients you must:

- Clean the tub with soap and water. Use a scrub brush.*
- Rinse with clean water.
- Disinfect the tub with a disinfectant that has a Tuberculocidal (TB) claim on the label. Spray the footbath thoroughly and follow the manufacturer instructions.

OR

Disinfect the tub with a bleach solution. The solution can be made by mixing 10 ml of bleach with 495 ml of water or 2 teaspoons of bleach with 2 cups of water. It must be made fresh daily. Spray the footbath with the bleach solution and let it sit for 10 minutes.

If the footbath has a screen, then the screen must be removed, cleaned and disinfected between clients and at the end of each day.

How do you clean and disinfect a footbath with pipes?

Between clients you must:

- Clean the tub with soap and water. Use a scrub brush.*
- Rinse with clean water.



- Disinfect the tub with a disinfectant that has a TB claim on the label. Circulate the disinfectant through the pipes and follow the manufacturer instructions.

OR

Disinfect the tub with a bleach solution (this may be corrosive to your pipes). The solution can be made by mixing 20 litres of water with 404 ml of bleach, approximately the volume of a small drinking water bottle. Circulate the solution through the pipes for at least 10 minutes.

At the end of each day, the screen must be removed, cleaned and disinfected.

What if I use a single-use disposable liner?

- You still need to clean and disinfect your footbath between clients.

Between clients you must:

- Clean the tub with soap and water. Use a scrub brush.*
- Rinse with clean water.
- Disinfect the tub with a low level disinfectant by thoroughly spraying the tub. Follow the manufacturer instructions.

OR

Disinfect the tub by using a bleach solution. The solution can be used by mixing 5 ml of bleach with 2½ litres water or 1 teaspoon of bleach with 10 cups water. Spray the tub with the solution and let it soak for 10 minutes. The bleach solution must be made fresh daily.

What more can I do to protect my clients from infection?

- Tell your clients to avoid waxing or shaving legs 24 hours before having a pedicure.

*** At the end of each day clean and soak the scrub brush in a disinfectant.**

