

Effective disinfectants to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 on food contact services



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ALERT: A table of disinfectants was developed by ODA using an older version of EPA’s “List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2” (hereafter, List N). The table previously posted on ODA’s website is no longer considered comprehensive, and therefore has been removed.

For an updated list of products that can be used on food-contact surfaces, you can do one of the following:

Option 1:

- Go to EPA’s List N website: <https://oda.fyi/EPADisinfectantListN>
- Click “Click Here to Find a Product to Kill Coronavirus (COVID-19)”
- Click “Launch”
- In the left-hand menu, click “Surface Types.” Click “Food Contact No Rinse (FCNR)” or “Food Contact Post-Rinse Required (FCR).” A post-rinse requirement means that, after using the disinfectant on a food-contact surface, you must rinse the surface with potable water.
- Click “Show results”

Option 2:

- Go to EPA’s List N website: <https://oda.fyi/EPADisinfectantListN>
- Click “Click Here to Find a Product to Kill Coronavirus (COVID-19)”
- Click “Launch”
- In the left-hand menu, click “Keyword Search”
- Type “food contact” in the search bar and click on the magnifying glass icon

List N is updated frequently. Please check it regularly. All products on “List N” meet EPA’s criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Read the product label to determine if you must

rinse food-contact surfaces with potable water after disinfection.

For a disinfectant to be effective, it must remain visibly wet on a surface for a specific length of time (the **contact time**). The required contact time depends on the virus you want to kill and the product you are using. Some disinfectants (i.e., concentrates) must be **diluted** before use.

The label of a disinfectant product will list the organisms the disinfectant will kill when used according to label directions. A disinfectant must be tested for efficacy against an organism before it can list that organism on its label. There are now many disinfectants that specifically list SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, on their label. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has also identified products that are effective against similar or harder-to-kill viruses, and are therefore thought to be effective against SARS-CoV-2. Many of these products are registered for sale and distribution in Oregon, and each of them may be marketed under many trade names by several companies.

For instructions on how to determine if a specific disinfectant is registered for sale and distribution in Oregon, see “Identifying a disinfectant effective against the virus that causes COVID-19,” available on ODA’s Disinfectants for COVID-19 webpage: <https://oda.direct/DisinfectantsCOVID19>

Table has been removed. See directions above to identify a disinfectant to kill SARS-CoV-2 on food-contact surfaces.