

Recommended Cleaning Protocols for Veterinary Healthcare Settings

Clean surfaces before disinfecting: Cleaning first removes organic matter such as body fluids, fecal matter, dirt, and other debris that can prevent the disinfectant from getting to any organisms.

Read labels: Follow manufacturer’s instructions, particularly for dilution and contact time.

Areas/Objects	Clean with green cleaner	Disinfect	PPE*	Product options	Cadence
Infrastructure (non-animal): Windows, high countertops, glass, walls	Yes		Gloves	Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Monthly
Non-animal high contact surfaces: Doorknobs, cabinet handles, stair railings, computer keyboards, mouses, countertops	Yes		Gloves	Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Biweekly
Animal contact surfaces Floor, tables, and counters in the following areas: exam room tables, treatment area, surgical suite, hospitalization and boarding areas	Yes	Yes	Gloves; eye protection	EPA-registered disinfectant AND Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Immediately after use
Floors	Yes	Yes	Gloves; eye protection	EPA-registered disinfectant AND Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Daily; In exam rooms before/after each patient visit
Administrative areas	Yes		Gloves	Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Biweekly
Staff kitchen area	Yes		Gloves	Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Daily
Reusable equipment: Water bowls, food bowls, litter boxes, diagnostic equipment, stethoscope	Yes	Yes	Gloves; eye protection	EPA-registered disinfectant AND Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	After each use
Laboratory area: Cytology, diagnostic preparation area (area where fecals are processed for shipment), hematology	Yes	Yes	Gloves; eye protection	EPA-registered disinfectant AND Neutral detergent with water or EPA approved cleaning product	Daily or when visibly soiled

*This is the recommended PPE to use, however, please assess the risk of splashing, aerosolization, and skin contact during your cleaning and disinfecting. Consider additional PPE, such as gowns, if concern for contact with infectious materials during cleaning and disinfecting. Depending on disinfectant/concentration, masks may also be considered.