The 3-Step Cleaning Process

For daycare rooms, nappy change areas and kitchens. Print and display near sinks and change benches.

1. Clean

Detergent and warm water. Scrub to lift dirt and germs; the scrubbing is what removes them.

2. Rinse

Clean water takes away loosened germs and detergent residue.

3. Dry, and disinfect only if needed

Dry the surface. Where body fluids, nappy change, toilets or an outbreak are involved, wipe with disinfectant on the clean, dry surface and leave it for the label's contact time.

When is step 3 disinfectant needed?

- After a spill of vomit, faeces, urine or blood
- Nappy change mats that body fluids have touched
- Toilets and potties
- During an outbreak, on bathrooms and high-touch surfaces

Never

- Spray disinfectant onto a dirty surface and wipe it straight off
- Store diluted disinfectant in a spray bottle for days
- Use vinegar or bicarbonate of soda as a cleaning product
- Mix bleach with any other product

Based on Staying Healthy, 6th edition (NHMRC 2024), Part 3.2 Cleaning. Free poster from Golden Star Childcare Cleaning.