

PREPARING HOUSEHOLD BLEACH AS A DISINFECTANT

LEVEL REQUIRED	HOW TO MIX BLEACH SOLUTION
High Level Disinfection 5000 ppm 1:10 dilution (1 part bleach to 9 parts water) Contact time = 10 minutes	50 mL of bleach + 450 mL of water OR 3.5 tbsp of bleach + 2 cups of water
Intermediate Level Disinfection 1000 ppm 1:50 dilution (1 part bleach to 49 parts water) Contact time = 10 minutes	10 mL of bleach + 490 mL of water OR 2 tsp bleach + 2 cups of water
Low Level Disinfection 100 ppm 1:500 dilution (1 part bleach to 499 parts water) Contact time = 10 minutes	1 mL of bleach + 1/2 litre of water OR 1/4 tsp of bleach + 2 cups of water

Please note that the bleach recipes above are calculated with a 5.25% sodium hypochlorite solution

Online dilution calculator available from Public Health Ontario at the following link: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/health-topics/environmental-occupational-health/water-quality/chlorine-dilution-calculator>

For more information on infection prevention and control, visit york.ca/InfectionPrevention or contact York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653, TTY: 1-866-512-6228, Health.Inspectors@york.ca

DISINFECTING TIPS

1. Clean, rinse, and dry all items and surfaces before you disinfect.
2. Solution must be made fresh daily to preserve strength.
3. Do not double dip your cloth into the solution.
4. Do not spray bleach onto items/surfaces. Use the stream function on a bottle or use a cloth soaked in bleach.
5. Always pour bleach into water when mixing. Do not mix with any other chemical.
6. Use chlorine test strips to ensure you have the right bleach concentration.
7. Ensure the item/surface is made of a material compatible with bleach. Follow manufacturer's instructions.

