

Supplemental COVID-19 Meetinghouse Cleaning Guidelines (United States and Canada)

Updated June 2, 2021



These guidelines will help Church unit leaders manage cleaning activities amid changing risks of COVID-19. Efforts to prevent transmitting the disease should always meet local government requirements and comply with the direction from Area Presidencies.

Minimize Transmission via Common Surfaces

The risk of transmitting COVID-19 through touching shared surfaces is considered to be low. In most situations, regular cleaning processes are sufficient to remove viruses that may be on surfaces. As a precaution, consider the following measures:

- Eliminate the need to touch common surfaces. For example, use doorstops on chapel doors.
- Promote regular handwashing and use of hand sanitizer.

Clean Common Surfaces

1. Supplemental Member Routine Cleaning

- The frequency of member cleaning may be adapted according to local needs.
- Use the standard, Church-provided cleaning products. Give extra attention to cleaning frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, restroom fixtures, countertops, and stair railings. It is not necessary to use disinfecting sprays or wipes for routine cleaning.

2. Cleaning Following a Positive Case

Shared surface areas will need to be disinfected only if they have had a known exposure from someone with active or presumed active disease. Once participants or leaders are aware that a person is presumed or confirmed positive for COVID-19, use the following protocols:

- Ensure that the facilities manager and other unit leaders meeting in the same building are aware of the event. The facilities manager may contract cleaning services if necessary.
- Establish the timing of the person's visit to the building and the progress of the disease. Generally, a person will be spreading the virus as early as two to three days before—and while—symptoms are present.
- Define the location or the areas of the building where the person was present.
- Clean or disinfect the affected area. Local leaders may choose to keep the building or portions of it closed until the appropriate time has passed to eliminate the need for disinfection or cleaning. Alternatively, leaders may provide training to members to

disinfect or clean the area. An affected area will need to be cleaned or disinfected according to this time line:

- If use is anticipated within 24 hours of contamination, disinfect nonporous surfaces with approved disinfectant products.
- If use of the area is anticipated between 24 and 72 hours after contamination, clean surfaces with Church-provided cleaning products.
- If use is anticipated more than 72 hours after contamination, no additional cleaning measures are needed.