

Disinfecting Fabric Recommendations

from Absecon Mills

SHERPA & SHIRE (and other 100% olefin fabrics)

Freestyle Δ – Glide, Parasail, Rappel, Spartan, Zipline

Sherpa and Shire, and all of our 100% Marquésa Lana™ olefin patterns are made with a 100% solution dyed yarn which is impervious to 100% bleach, and should have no impact from the disinfectants that are recommended for Covid-19 (see list below). However, the CDC recommends household bleach (that includes 5.25% or 6.00%–6.15% sodium hypochlorite depending on manufacturer) diluted in water at a 1:10 dilution ratio which is 1.5 cups of bleach in a gallon of water to disinfect porous surfaces. The use of bleach on Sherpa and Shire will have no harmful impact and the recommended treatments will not void our warranty, but we always recommend that the fabric to be cleaned and disinfected should be tested in an inconspicuous area first.

Considerations concerning use of bleach as a disinfectant:

- Chlorine solutions should be prepared fresh daily, as they are light sensitive. They have an expiration date and can lose efficacy fairly quickly if not stored properly. Bleach expires one year from production.
- Most chlorine products require the removal of organic soil prior to their use (removing bulk spill matter, cleaning prior to disinfecting).
- Disinfection requires a wet contact time (amount of time the disinfectant is required to be left on the surface to be effective). Ten minutes is recommended but please follow manufacturers instructions.
- Chlorine solutions are corrosive and can pit metal and damage skin.
- NEVER mix bleach with any product containing ammonia or acids.

100% POLYESTER & POLYESTER BLENDS

American Craft – Coverlet, Draft, Framework, Hopsack, Repp, Treadle
Smart Casual – Dixon, Donovan, Gadget, Hopper, Incline, Sidestep
Adler, Ballard, Serrano

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE PRODUCTS

Our polyester and polyester blend fabrics are more sensitive to the effects of bleach, but a 3% bleach solution (1/3 cup bleach to 1 gallon of water) is the highest concentration that can be used, but we can't guarantee that long term use and cleaning will not pose a problem. We recommend using something like Clorox's Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant instead. This product, which is available as both a spray (for fabrics) and a wipe (for hard surfaces only), is listed below and will kill pathogens on both hard and soft surfaces, and can eliminate bacteria and viruses in 30 seconds. The industrial-grade cleaner can be applied to a variety of fabrics, including those that are 100% polyester. The cleaner has no volatile organic compounds (VOCs), harsh fumes, bleach, or added fragrance, and its active ingredient, hydrogen peroxide, breaks down into water and oxygen upon use.

QUATERNARY AMMONIUM PRODUCTS (QUATS)

These products such as Lysol's Clean & Fresh Multi-Surface Cleaner is also EPA-registered for its virus-fighting abilities, killing 99.9% of viruses and bacteria. The product's active ingredient, alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride has been implicated in various adverse health effects, so you'll want to avoid skin contact, inhalation, or accidental ingestion. As with all potent cleaners, keep away from your kids, apply only in well-ventilated areas, and wash surfaces with clean water after use. Please follow all manufacturers instructions when using these products.

Again, we always recommend that the fabric to be cleaned and disinfected should be tested in an inconspicuous area first.

Approved disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2

Because SARS-CoV-2 is a new virus, it is not readily available for use in commercial laboratory testing to determine if a certain disinfectant product is effective at killing the virus. However, the following list of surface disinfectants has shown effectiveness against another type of human coronavirus similar to SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19

- Asepticare™
- Bleach (3%; 1/3 cup bleach to 1 gallon of water)
- Bleach 1:10 (10% bleach)
- Bleach-Rite® Disinfecting Spray
- CaviCide™
- CaviCide1™
- Clorox® Healthcare Bleach Germicidal Cleaner
- Clorox® Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Spray
- Diversey™ Avert® Sporacidal Disinfectant Cleaner
- Lysol's Clean & Fresh Multi-Surface Cleaner
- Oxivir® I RTU
- Oxivir® TB
- OxyCide™ Daily Disinfectant Cleaner
- Virex II 256

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CLEANING VS. DISINFECTING

It's important to note that cleaning a surface, such as removing dirt and particles, is not the same thing as disinfecting a surface that kills viruses and bacteria. Our fabrics have been designed for periodic cleaning (a few times per year), so please take care to follow all manufacturers instructions carefully, especially giving care to not oversaturate the fabric if choosing to clean/disinfect daily.

CLEANING refers to the removal of dirt and impurities including germs from surfaces. Often, you need to clean a surface with soap and water or another cleaning solution BEFORE you can effectively disinfect the surface. Cleaning alone does not kill germs, but by removing them, it decreases the number of germs and therefore any risk of spreading infection.

DISINFECTING kills germs on surfaces. Disinfecting works by using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but killing germs remaining on a surface after cleaning further reduce any risk of spreading infection.

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DISINFECTANT REFERENCE CHART			
	Hydrogen Peroxide Products (RECOMMENDED CHOICE)	Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (Commonly referred to as "QUATS")	Sodium Hypochlorite (5.25% Bleach Concentrate) (3% solution = 1/3 cup bleach to 1 gallon of water)
EPA Toxicity Level	Category IV - non-toxic	Category III - slightly toxic	Category 1 - Highly toxic
Pre-cleaning Requirement	Product specific. Some products registered as one step disinfectants. Best practices advise pre-cleaning of surfaces.	Product specific. Some products registered as one step disinfectants. Best practices advise pre-cleaning of surfaces.	Surfaces must be pre-cleaned prior to disinfecting.
Storage	Stable in storage. Keep out of sunlight and store in a dark container.	Stable in storage.	For disinfecting purposes, bleach should not be stored for more than 3 months. When mixed with water to create a 3% solution, the solution is only effective as a disinfectant for 24 hours.
Dwell Time	1 - 10 minute dwell time. Read label for specific recommended dwell times. No rinsing required.	Generally a 10 minute dwell time. Read label for specific recommended dwell times. Wipe down thoroughly with a clean damp cloth..	5 - 10 minute dwell time. Read label for specific recommended dwell times. Wipe down thoroughly with a clean damp cloth..
Health Effects	None. The hydrogen peroxide denatures and disseminates into oxygen and water within minutes, leaving no residue or by-products.	May cause skin and respiratory irritation.	Mixing with ammonia, ammonium quaternary compounds and other acidic products can create a poisonous gas. Corrosive to eyes and skin, and is a respiratory irritant.
Exposure Controls	No special requirements. Regular ventilation is adequate <i>unless using commercial fogging equipment where PPE is recommended.</i>	Regular ventilation is adequate <i>unless using commercial fogging equipment where PPE is recommended.</i>	Requires PPE and/or increased ventilation.
Advantages	Readily available and non-corrosive in diluted form. No rinsing required and some products are odorless.	Readily available.	Inexpensive and easy to purchase.
Example Products	Clorox® Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Spray Oxivir® 1 TRU Spray Oxivir® TB Liquid Concentrate OxyCide™ Daily Disinfectant Cleaner	Ascepticare™ CaviCide™ CaviCide 1™ Lysol's Clean & Fresh Multi-Surface Cleaner Virex II 256	3% bleach solution using 1/3 cup 5.25% bleach concentrate to 1 gallon of water.
Fabric Choice (Please test in an inconspicuous area of fabric first)	Safe for all fabrics when used properly according to manufacturers instructions and is <u>safe for all porous surfaces such as upholstery, carpets and drapery.</u>	Safe for all fabrics when used properly according to manufacturers instructions, <u>however, these disinfectants are mostly utilized for hard surfaces.</u>	Should only be used on our 100% Marquésa Lana™ polyolefin fabrics., such as Sherpa & Shiro, Donovan, Foundation, Gadget, Jetta, Mu-rios, and Primary. <u>This method of disinfecting is mostly utilized for hard surfaces.</u>

PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO NOT OVERSATURATE THE FABRIC DURING APPLICATION OF CHOSEN PRODUCT. IF SPRAYING, A FINE MIST IS ADEQUATE WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF MOISTURE APPLIED TO THE SURFACE OF THE FABRIC.

Have more questions? Please email us at info@absecon.com.