

FORMULAS FOR BLEACH SOLUTIONS

- **Disinfecting solution** is more concentrated and is used for diapering areas, bathrooms, hand washing sinks, floors, and surfaces contaminated by body fluids. Bleach comes in different strengths, depending on the brand. Go to the Washington State Department of Health for specific guidelines: http://here.doh.wa.gov/materials/guidelines-for-bleach-solutions/13_Disinfect_E15L.pdf
- For bleach strength 8.25% use 2 Tablespoons per gallon of water, or 1 1/2 teaspoons per quart of water.
- This solution is strong enough to kill germs quickly, but it still needs time to work. You must let the surface air-dry for a minimum of two minutes. Using a towel or sponge to dry the surface increases the chances of putting germs back on the cleaned surface. Bleach evaporates quickly, leaving no toxic residue.
- **Sanitizing solution** is a less concentrated solution and is used for dishware that has been cleaned, kitchens, table tops, classroom counters and doorknobs, and toys that are mouthed by children.
- For bleach strength 8.25% use 1 teaspoon per gallon of water, or 1/4 teaspoon per quart. For this less concentrated solution to do its job of killing germs, the bleach must stay on surfaces or objects for at least two full minutes. Allow the items to air dry.
- You can make a quantity of a bleach solution each day and pour into spray bottles for use. Empty out and refill spray bottles daily because chlorine bleach exposed to air loses its strength.

