

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

AFTER MONKEYPOX (MPOX)



During the infectious period, body fluids and lesions from people with MPOX can survive in linens, clothing, and on surfaces. It is important to clean and disinfect areas where the person with MPOX has been to reduce the risk of spreading MPOX.

Use an United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered disinfectant and wear proper personal protective equipment (PPE) (mask, gloves, or gown) when cleaning.

CLEAN AND DISINFECT HOUSEHOLD IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1

COLLECT AND CONTAIN TRASH

Place soiled waste, such as bandages, paper towels, food packaging, and other general trash items, in a sealed bag.



2

LAUNDRY

- Gather contaminated clothing and linens BEFORE anything else in the room is cleaned.
- Do not shake the linens as this could spread infectious particles.
- Wash laundry with detergent.



For updates, text COSD MONKEYPOX to 468-311. For resources, visit:

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3

CLEAN HARD SURFACES AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- This includes tables, countertops, door handles, toilet flush handles, faucets, light switches, floors, inside refrigerator, freezer, other appliances, interior cabinet spaces, or drawers.
- Wash soiled dishes and eating utensils in a dishwasher with detergent and hot water or by hand with hot water and dish soap.

4

CLEAN FURNITURE AND OTHER SOFT FURNISHING

- This includes upholstered furniture, carpets, rugs, and mattresses. In some cases, steam cleaning can be considered.
- If the person with MPOX had minimal contact, disinfect the surface with a surface-appropriate disinfectant.

5

VACUUM, SWEEP, AND MOP CARPET AND FLOORING

- Wet cleaning methods are preferred such as disinfectant wipes, sprays, and mopping.
- Vacuuming is acceptable using a vacuum with a high-efficiency air filter. If air filter is not available, ensure the person vacuuming wears a well-fitting mask or respirator.
- Avoid dry dusting or sweeping, as this may spread infectious particles.

6

THROW AWAY TRASH

- The person with MPOX should use a dedicated, lined trash can in the room where they are isolating.
- Any gloves, bandages, or other waste and disposable items that have been in direct contact with skin should be placed in a sealed plastic bag, then thrown away in the dedicated trash can.
- The person with MPOX or other household members should use gloves when removing garbage bags and handling and disposing of trash.



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