

SANITATION WORKSHEET



WHY IT MATTERS:

Sanitation is a process, not a single step or product. Effective sanitation reduces pathogen load, improves pig health and performance, and strengthens biosecurity.

SANITATION PROCESS

1.

Remove Organic material

- Scrape and remove all visible manure, bedding, and debris. This step sets up the foundation for success.

2.

Apply Detergent

- Use an alkaline detergent to break down fats, proteins, and biofilms.
 - Follow labeled dilution rates
 - Allow full contact time as recommended by the manufacturer.

3.

Powerwash

- Pressure wash surfaces to remove loosened material. **Hot water improves cleaning efficiency when available.**

4.

Inspect

- Surfaces should be visibly clean. If manure or greasy residue remains, repeat cleaning.

5.

Disinfect

- Apply an EPA-registered disinfectant at the correct dilution.
 - Match the disinfection to pathogen risk and surface type.
 - Maintain surfaces wet for the full contact time.

6.

Dry & Downtime

- Allow surfaces to fully dry. Adequate downtime further reduces pathogen survival before restocking

CLEANING

Physical removal of manure, bedding, feed, and organic material using detergents and water.

DISINFECTING

Use of chemical or physical methods to kill or inactivate most remaining pathogens on **clean** surfaces.

Disinfectants do not work on dirty surfaces. Cleaning must come first.

PRINCIPLES THAT DRIVE RESULTS:

- Remove animals from the room (practice All-In-All-Out) to reduce the spread of aerosolizing disease and negatively affecting ventilation environment.
- Clean before disinfecting—every time.
- Follow the label (dilution, contact time, safety).
- Correct concentration and safety guidelines matter - stronger is not better.
- Contact time is critical for effectiveness.
- Protect people and pigs with proper PPE and rinsing of animal-contact surfaces.

CHOOSING A DISINFECTANT:

No single disinfectant works in every situation. Selection should consider:

- Target pathogens
- Organic matter present
- Temperature and water quality
- Surface type (concrete, metal, plastic)

COMMON SANITATION ERRORS:

- Skipping or rushing the cleaning step
- Shortened contact times
- Incorrect dilution rates
- Disinfecting dirty surfaces
- Inadequate drying or downtime

Sources: Center for Food Security & Public Health (CFSPH), Iowa State University. Disinfection 101: Key Principles of Cleaning and Disinfection for Animal Settings, 2023.