**Mixing Bleach**

Add water first, then bleach. Prevent spills when filling containers. Dilute fresh bleach each day.

Bleach is sold in different concentrations. This will change how you dilute it.

**When mixing and applying:**
- Mix next to eyewash stations
- Wear gloves
- Use safety glasses
- Wear clothes that cover and shoes with socks

**Using Bleach at Child Care Sites**

**Contact Time:** Bleach stays on surfaces for less time when sanitizing and more time when disinfecting. Check the label first.

- **Do not** wash food with bleach.
- **Do not** drink, breathe in, or spray on skin.
- **Do not** mix bleach and ammonia.
- **Avoid** using scented bleach.
- **Bleach** is not for routine cleaning. It is a pesticide that controls bacteria and viruses. Every pesticide, including bleach, can have health risks.

**Eye Wash Station**

- **Weaker bleach** sanitizes:
  - Food contact surfaces
  - Items that touch the mouth
  - Floor and sleeping areas

- **Stronger bleach** disinfects:
  - Surfaces with body fluids
  - When someone is sick

**Child Safety**

- Keep kids away while mixing and using bleach.
- Never let children under 18 use bleach.
- Store out of reach of children.

**Using Bleach**

- Use on hard surfaces.
- Wash surfaces with soap and water before using bleach.
- Open windows or use fans to ventilate.
- Wipe surfaces with clean water after use.

**Bleach isn’t the only option. Other products might work in your situation. Check the label for proper use. Ask your Department of Health:**

[http://npic.orst.edu/shemir.html](http://npic.orst.edu/shemir.html)

**For questions about risk and the use of bleach or disinfectants, call:**

**NPIC**

800-858-7378
8am-12pm PST

**Office of Environmental Health and Safety**

Washington State Department of Health

360-236-3330