Cleaning, disinfecting, sterilizing Become a mean, clean coronavirus-fighting machine

Health®

Current as of March 16, 2020

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Cleaning

Removes germs, dirt, impurities from surfaces. It doesn't kill germs, but taking them away can reduce their spread.

Disinfecting

Kills germs on surfaces with the use of chemicals. It's not the same as removing germs and should be done after cleaning.

Sterilizing

Destroys microorganisms on surfaces and in fluids, which can be done through high heat and steam.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched household and office surfaces
- Cleaning with a detergent or soap and water should be done before disinfecting
- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting and throw away afterwards