

Disinfection 101

Step 1

Place your pet in a temporary cage with food, water, and a new toy.

Step 2

Remove and discard any organic materials (cardboard, newspaper, wood, shavings, natural toys, food items, rope or wood perches, mineral blocks) from the cage/tank/kennel.

Step 3

Use soap (Dawn®) and water to remove dirt and debris from the cage/tank/kennel surfaces and any items (plastic or metal bowls and toys) remaining. Some toys and bowls are dishwasher safe and can be cleansed in the dishwasher.

Step 4

Mix a solution of 10% bleach. (1 part bleach in 9 parts water). Soak or wipe down all items and surfaces with 10% bleach solution. Let bleach sit on surfaces for 15 min.

Note: Bleach will not work on dirt or oil or poop covered surfaces, be sure to clean well first.

Step 5

Rinse bleach residue off of all surfaces and items with water since bleach can be toxic to some pets. Porous surfaces will need multiple rinses. Let dry overnight or for a few hours in the sun.

Step 6

Once the cage is thoroughly dry and free of any fumes, setup your pet's habitat again and enjoy.

Repeat 1-2 times a month. Don't forget to do a general cleaning daily.

Note: When possible move the cage/kennel/tank away from its usual location for disinfection. Chemical splashes on the wall or floor surrounding the habitat can create fumes that can be toxic to many animals.