



MONKEYPOX

Commercial Residence Cleaning and Disinfection Guidance

This guidance is for commercial residences that house people where a person with monkeypox may be staying. For more guidance on cleaning in see CDC: [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Home, Workplace, and Other Community Settings](#)

Monkeypox spreads between people primarily through direct contact with infectious lesions, scabs, or body fluids. The main way it has been spreading is through close intimate contact with symptomatic people, mainly during sexual activity. It may be possible to become infected after touching a surface that has been used by someone with monkeypox. However, in most situations, the risk of infection from touching a surface is low.

Commercial residences housing persons with monkeypox can take steps to lower the risk of spreading the virus to other people and staff. Staff should not enter the room while person is isolating unless there is an emergency. Cleaning and disinfection should be done after the person has left.

These key steps include:

- Proper hand hygiene
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Appropriate Cleaning and disinfection
- Appropriate Waste disposal

Hand Hygiene

Staff should follow strict hand hygiene (i.e., hand washing with soap and water or use of an alcohol-based hand rub) before and after entering a room where an individual is or has isolated, after contact with clothing, linens, or environmental surfaces (e.g., countertops, toilet seats) that may have contact with lesion material, and after removing PPE.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Staff should wear, at a minimum, **disposable medical gloves** and a **respiratory (e.g., N95) or well-fitting mask**, and **single use disposable** gown while cleaning and disinfecting the space where someone is or has isolated. Hand hygiene should be complete before putting on PPE and after removing PPE.

Please see a link to a [PDF](#) for a video explaining how to [put on \(don\)](#) and [take off \(doff\)](#) PPE.

Staff should have all cleaning and disinfection material at hand and ready, so they do not have to enter and exit the room multiple times and minimize cross contamination.

Cleaning and disinfection

To lower the risk of spreading the virus, clean and disinfect in the following order:

1. **General waste containment**
 - a. Collect and contain in a sealed bag any soiled waste such as bandages, paper towels, food packaging, and other general trash items.





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2. Laundry

- a. Gather contaminated clothing and linens before anything else in the room is cleaned. Do not shake the linens as this could spread infectious particles.
- b. Laundry should not be mixed with that of other guests
- c. Avoid shaking soiled laundry as this could spread infectious particles.
- d. Wash laundry in a standard washing machine with detergent, following label instructions. Laundry sanitizers may be used but are not necessary.

3. Hard Surfaces and other household items

- a. Clean and disinfect frequently touched hard surfaces with an EPA-registered disinfectants ([Disinfectants for Emerging Viral Pathogens: List Q](#)) in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. This includes frequently touched surfaces like tables, countertops, door handles, toilet flush handles, faucets, light switches, and floors.
- b. Wet cleaning methods are preferred such as disinfectant wipes, sprays, and mopping
- c. Include interior surfaces of refrigerators, freezer, and other appliances, interior cabinet spaces, or drawers if they have accessed by the person with monkeypox.
- d. Wash soiled dishes and eating utensils in a dishwasher with detergent and hot water or by hand with hot water and dish soap.
- e. Do not dry dust or sweep surfaces as this may spread infectious particles.

4. Upholstered furniture, carpet, and other soft furnishings

- a. If the person with monkeypox had direct skin contact and/or excessive drainage of fluids from rashes onto soft furnishings, such as upholstered furniture, carpets, rugs, and mattresses, steam cleaning can be considered.
- b. If the person with monkeypox had minimal contact with soft furnishings, disinfect the surface with a surface-appropriate disinfectant.
- c. Vacuuming is acceptable using a vacuum with a high-efficiency air filter. If not available, ensure the person vacuuming wears a well-fitting mask or respirator.
- d. Recommend using waterproof mattress protectors to protect the mattress, which are cleaned between guests.

5. Cleaning and Disinfection of vehicles

- a. Clean and disinfect hard non-porous vehicle interior surfaces (buttons, switches, touchscreen, door handles, steering wheel, mirrors, glass, center console, etc.) using an EPA-registered disinfectant in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- b. Steam clean upholstered/soft material (fabric, carpet, seats, sun visors, headliner, etc.) and other porous vehicle interior surfaces if a person with monkeypox had direct skin contact and/or excessive drainage of fluids from rashes onto these surfaces. Consider disinfecting the surface with a surface appropriate disinfectant if the person with monkeypox had minimal contact with porous surfaces.

6. Waste disposal

- a. Disposing of contaminated waste should continue as normal. Recommend using a dedicated, lined trash receptacle in the room for disposal of contaminated waste (e.g., gloves, bandages, cleaning products).





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Cleaning Matrix Checklist – to be completed in this order

Completed	Action:
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Hand hygiene and put on PPE before entering room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable medical gloves • Disposable gown • Respirator or well-fitting mask
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	General Waste containment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect all solid wastes, disposable items including toiletries, and general trash items and contain in sealed plastic bag for disposal.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Laundry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather contaminated clothing and linens before anything else in the room is cleaned. Place in disposable laundry bag or clean bag. • Keep separate from other guests' laundry.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Clean and disinfect hard surfaces and other household items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tables ○ Countertops ○ Door handles ○ Toilet flush handles ○ Faucets ○ Light switches ○ Remotes ○ Floors ○ Refrigerator ○ Freezer ○ Drawers • Wash soiled dishes and eating utensils in a dishwasher with detergent and hot water or by hand with hot water and dish soap.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Clean upholstered furniture, carpet, and other soft furnishings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfect the surface with a surface-appropriate disinfectant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Couch ○ Pillows ○ Carpet ○ Rugs ○ Mattress
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Waste disposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All waste placed in dedicated, lined trash receptacles and disposed of using in accordance with regular waste management protocols.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove PPE and hand hygiene. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose of PPE in dedicated, lined trash receptacle.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Put on new pair of disposable medical gloves and disinfect cleaning cart before moving to next room

Reference: [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Home, Workplace, and Other Community Settings](#)

