

TOOLBOX TALK - COVID-19 TOOL CLEANING

This guidance provides recommendations on the cleaning of tools to help prevent spread of COVID-19

- Anyone handling tools should wash their hands or use a proper hand sanitizer before and after use to help prevent contamination.

- Anyone handling tools should be properly trained and protected using necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

- Clean tools with mild soap, a clean damp cloth, and, as needed, an approved diluted bleach solution only. Certain cleaning agents and solvents are harmful to plastics and other insulated parts and should not be used.

- If possible do not use cleaners that have conductive or corrosive materials such as gasoline, turpentine, lacquer thinner, paint thinner, chlorinated cleaning solvents, and household detergents containing ammonia.

- Never use flammable or combustible solvents around tools.



CLEANING OPTIONS:

MILD SOAP & DILUTED BLEACH SOLUTION

First clean tools **with a mild soap and damp cloth to remove dirt and grease and then decontaminate with a diluted bleach solution**, that is consistent with the CDC's approved process.

CLEANING PROCEDURE

1. Clean the product surface with mild soap and water to remove dirt and grease.

2. Dip a clean cloth into the diluted bleach solution.

A diluted bleach solution can be made by mixing:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water; or
- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

3. Wring out the cloth so it is not dripping wet.

4. Gently wipe each handle, grasping surfaces, or outer surfaces with the cloth, using care to ensure liquids do not flow into tool.

5. No other cleaning material should be used, and the diluted bleach solution should never be mixed with ammonia or any other cleanser.

6. Allow the surface to air-dry naturally.

7. Anyone cleaning tools should avoid touching their face with unwashed hands and should immediately wash their hands after the cleaning process is finished.