

# How to Read a Disinfectant Label

Read the entire label.

The label is the law!

Note: Below is an **example** of information that can be found on a disinfectant label

## Active Ingredients:

What are the main disinfecting chemicals?

## EPA Registration Number:

U.S. laws require that all disinfectants be registered with EPA.

## Directions for Use (Instructions for Use):

Where should the disinfectant be used?

What germs does the disinfectant kill?

What types of surfaces can the disinfectant be used on?

How do I properly use the disinfectant?

## Contact Time:

How long does the surface have to stay wet with the disinfectant to kill germs?



### ACTIVE INGREDIENTS:

Alkyl (60% C14, 30% C16, 5% C12, 5% C18)  
Dimethyl Benzyl Ammonium Chloride .....10.0%  
**OTHER INGREDIENTS:** .....90.0%  
**TOTAL:** .....100.0%

EPA REG NO. 55555-55-55555

## CAUTION

### Directions for Use

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

#### For Disinfection of Healthcare Organisms:

*Staphylococcus aureus*,  
*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

#### To Disinfect Hard, Nonporous Surfaces:

Pre-wash surface.  
Mop or wipe with disinfectant solution.  
Allow solution to stay wet on surface for at least 10 minutes.  
Rinse well and air dry.



EXP MM-DD-YYYY



### PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS:

Hazardous to humans and domestic animals. Wear gloves and eye protection.

**CAUSES MODERATE EYE IRRITATION.** Avoid contact with eyes, skin or clothing. Wash thoroughly with soap and water after handling. Avoid contact with foods.

**FIRST AID: IF IN EYES:** Hold eye open and rinse slowly and gently with water for 15-20 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present, after the first 5 minutes, then continue rinsing eye. **IF ON SKIN OR CLOTHING:** Take off contaminated clothing. Rinse skin immediately with plenty of water for 15-20 minutes.

**POISON CONTROL:** Call a Poison Control Center (1-866-366-5048) or doctor for treatment advice.

**STORAGE AND DISPOSAL:** Store this product in a cool, dry area away from direct sunlight and heat. When not in use keep center cap of lid closed to prevent moisture loss. Nonrefillable container. Do not reuse or refill this container.

## Signal Words (Caution, Warning, Danger):

How risky is this disinfectant if it is swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin?

## Precautionary Statements:

How do I use this disinfectant safely? Do I need PPE?

## First Aid:

What should I do if I get the disinfectant in my eyes or mouth, on my skin, or if I breathe it in?

## Storage & Disposal:

How should the disinfectant be stored? How should I dispose of expired disinfectant? What should I do with the container?



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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