

DESIGNING FOR INFECTION CONTROL IN RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS



THE MATERIAL DIFFERENCE

Material selection plays a large role in infection control and disease prevention. Durable materials that are easy to clean and inhibit bacterial growth contribute to healthy and sustainable environments.

COVID-19 Disinfection Protocols/ Material Selection

Easy to clean and disinfect
Corrosion resistant
Durable construction

Multi-attribute Approach

Service Life
Environmental Considerations
Health and Safety



The right materials can mean the difference between healthy spaces and premature product failures, unbudgeted costs, and negative health outcomes.



KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

Cleaning vs Sanitizing vs Disinfecting



Cleaning removes dust and other microorganisms – accomplished with water, detergents, and mechanical action and is an essential first step before disinfection.

Sanitizing is a form of germ control that reduces bacteria but not SARS-CoV-2 and other viruses.



Disinfecting inactivates SARS-CoV-2 and other pathogens. It often involves chemicals, heat, or UV. Consult the [EPA recommended list of disinfectants](#).



C-Suite / Owners



Store Staff



Store Managers

Customers



DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

What to Do Now



Identify high-touch surfaces and items.
Reduce person-to-person contact.
Set effective cleaning protocols.
Configure spaces for social distancing considering foot traffic flow, bagging, and checkout experience.

Planning for the Future



Design spaces with social distancing in mind.
Evaluate all materials and surfaces for their ability to handle cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
Consider selecting nonporous materials for all high-touch surfaces for durability and to reduce the spread of infection.

Impacts on public health affect future design considerations in the time of COVID-19 and beyond.

Smart design means easy-to-clean materials

Nonporous materials reduce opportunities to trap pathogens

Flooring
Waterproof vinyl sheet, tile, and planks

Shopping Carts
Cleanable vinyl-coated handles

Partitions
Versatile plastic dividers

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

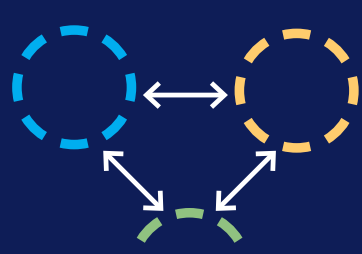
From Operations to Materials

Operational-based Design

Social distancing

Safety checks

Social zones / shared spaces



Material selection options for spaces requiring regular disinfection include: elastomeric or vinyl-coated furniture and thermally fused tabletops

LEARN MORE

[Whitepaper: The Role of Material Selection in Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Spaces](#)