



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. View the Quick Reference Guide at bit.ly/VVRefGuide.

Cleaning vs Sanitizing vs Disinfecting: Know the Difference



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 at bit.ly/VVEPADisinfectants.

Team Effort

Essential coordination and education are required for:



C-Suite / Owners



Store Managers



Store Staff



Customers

Design Implications

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



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.

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

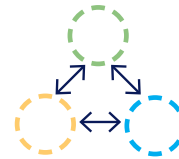
Nonporous materials reduce Operational-based design includes:



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. A Flow Chart on Design Implications based on Operational Implications can be viewed online at bit.ly/VVRetail1.

Learn More

The Whitepaper The Role of Material Selection in Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Spaces can be viewed online at bit.ly/VVDisinfectionPaper.



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