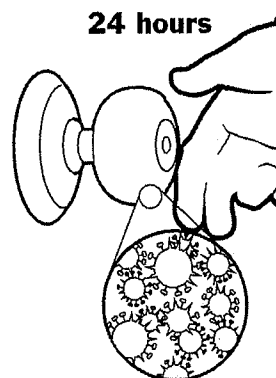


# INFLUENZA (FLU) Cleaning to Prevent the Flu

## Cleaning to Prevent the Flu

### How long can the flu virus live on objects, such as doorknobs and tables?

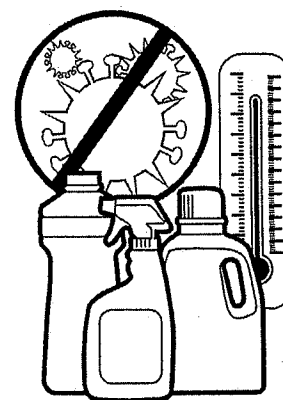
The flu virus can “live” on some surfaces for up to 24 hours. Routine cleaning of surfaces may reduce the spread of flu.



### What kills flu viruses?

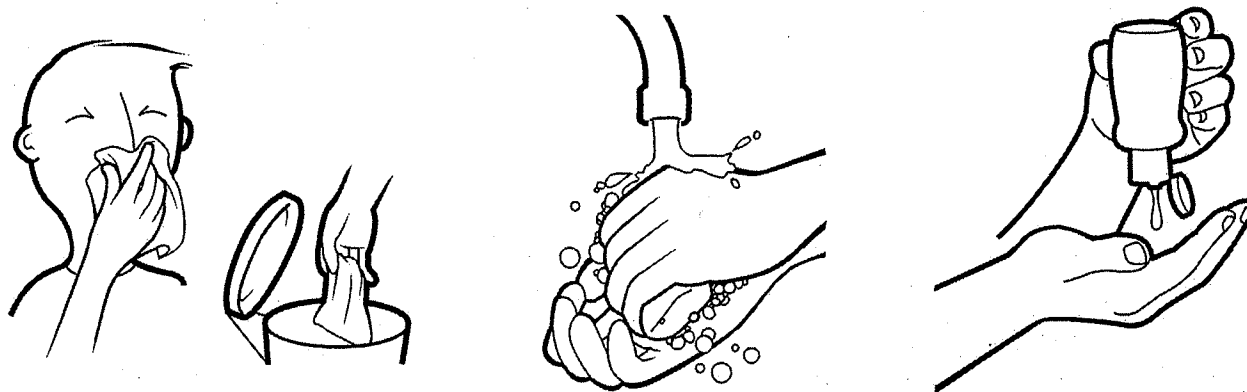
Flu viruses are killed by heat above 167° F [75° C]. Common household cleaning products can also kill the flu virus, including products containing:

- chlorine
- hydrogen peroxide
- detergents (soap)
- iodophors (iodine-based antiseptics)
- alcohols



### How should a caregiver handle a sick person's tissues or other items?

Make sure to wash your hands after touching the sick person. Also wash after handling their tissues or laundry.



For more information call CDC info at 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) or go to [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).



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