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# Alcohol Cleaning Guide





# The Facts on Cleaning and Disinfecting with Alcohols

Because the sudden and desperate need to prevent the spread of COVID-19, there has been a lot of confusion on if and how alcohols can be used to disinfect and sterilize. While Techspray traditionally has specialized in alcohol products intended to clean electronics and other industrial applications, it seems natural to consider our broad line of isopropyl alcohol (IPA) for that type of surface treatment.

While that is reasonable, some caveats need to be explained. Techspray does not offer cleaners listed on EPA's List N: Disinfectants for Coronavirus (COVID-19). The following are common methods of surface treatment per CDC guidelines\*, and how Techspray alcohol products can be expected to perform:

## CLEANING

The first step for preventing the spread of COVID-19 is cleaning surfaces, which physically removes virus and other contaminants. This is similar to washing your hands with soap and water, and very effective when followed by a disinfecting process. Alcohol products, including pre-saturated wipes, are effective and efficient for hard surface cleaning, and should be considered as critical part of an effective workspace hygiene regimen.

## DISINFECTING

The second step is disinfecting. A disinfecting agent actually kills a virus. Alcohols are no longer specifically recommended by the CDC for disinfecting hard surfaces from SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). However, IPA and ethanol have been shown to be effective on lipophilic viruses (e.g. herpes, vaccinia, and influenza) per studies reported by the CDC. Ethanol is also effective on many hydrophilic viruses (e.g. adenovirus, enterovirus, rhinovirus, and rotaviruses). Their antimicrobial effectiveness drops when diluted below 50% concentration. The optimum concentration is 60-90% solutions in water, because water may denature microbe proteins and increase contact time by extending evaporation.

## STERILIZING

Alcohols have been shown to be effective as bactericides, fungicides, and virucides. However, they cannot be considered for sterilization because they do not kill bacterial spores. Techspray alcohol products should NOT be used for those applications.

For more information, go to <https://www.techspray.com/isopropyl-alcohol-ipa> or contact us at [tsales@techspray.com](mailto:tsales@techspray.com) or 800-858-4043.

\* Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/disinfection-methods/chemical.html>



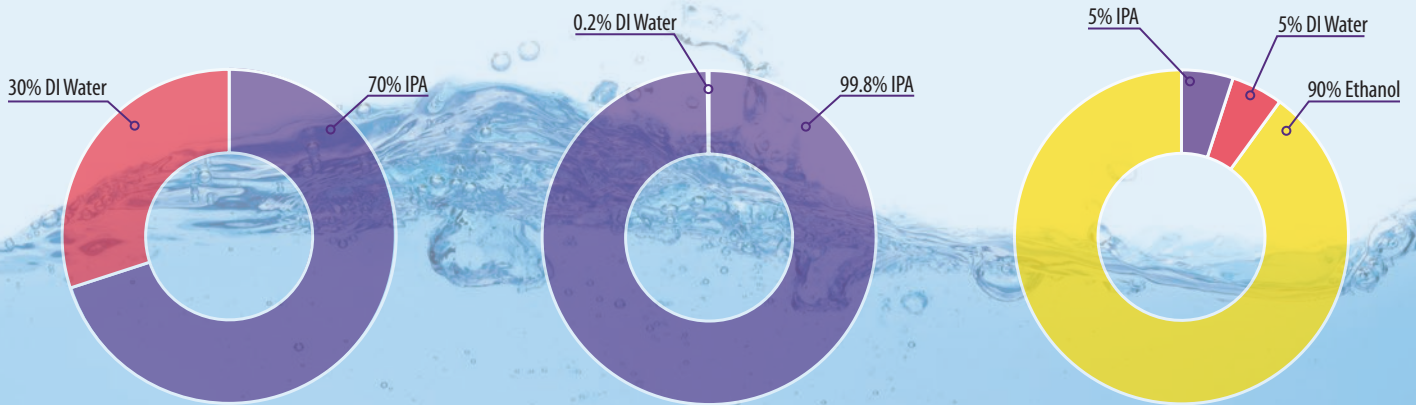
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*“Sterile” and “sterilize” have specific meanings to regulatory agencies, so should not be used haphazardly. Beware of products with unsubstantiated or misleading brand names or claims of disinfection or sterilization. At Techspray, what you see is what you get – the most diverse and effective line of alcohol workplace cleaning products.*



## SOLVENT



### 70% Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA)

**Controlled evaporation allows soak time for thick soils (e.g. solder paste). Effective on lipophilic viruses (e.g. herpes, vaccinia, and influenza)\*.**

### 99.8% Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA)

**Faster evaporation for efficient cleaning (e.g. flux removal from PCB).**

### 90% Ethyl Alcohol (Ethanol)

**Lower odor and up to 4X faster dry time. Effective on lipophilic viruses (e.g. herpes, vaccinia, and influenza) and hydrophilic viruses (e.g. adenovirus, enterovirus, rhinovirus, and rotaviruses)\*.**

\* Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/disinfection-methods/chemical.html>

## WIPE MATERIAL

### Commercial-Grade Nonwoven Cellulose-Poly

*Ideal for high volume applications like SMT stencil cleaning and industrial applications.*

- 5"x8" (127mm x 203mm) wipe
- More alcohol per wipe and more absorbent
- Lint-free & snag resistant
- 150 wipes per tube – 50% MORE WIPES!

### Nonwoven Polyester

- 5"x8" (127mm x 203mm) wipe
- Lint-free
- 100 wipes per tub

## WIPE PACKAGING



### Disposable Tubs

*Low cost container can be reused, but is often discarded after use.*



### Flip-Top Tubs

*Reusable container with spring-loaded flip-top lid to prevent dry-out.*



### Refill Rolls

*Presaturated refill rolls fit both flip-top and disposable tubs to save money and reduce trash.*



### Individually Wrapped Wipes

*One wipe per foil pouch avoids cross-contamination and is ideal for tool boxes and field service trucks.*

*Wipe size:  
5.5" x 5.5" (140mm x 140mm).*



## ALCOHOL SELECTION GUIDE



Item #	Solvent	Wipe Material	Packaging
1610-12S	99.8+% IPA	—	12 oz aerosol
1608-P	70% IPA	—	1 pint bottle
1608-G4	70% IPA	—	1 gal container, 4/cs
1608-5G	70% IPA	—	5 gal container
1608-54G	70% IPA	—	54 gal drum
1610-P	99.8+% IPA	—	1 pint bottle
1610-PT	99.8+% IPA	—	1 pint bottle w/sprayer
1610-G1	99.8+% IPA	—	1 gal container, 1/cs
1610-G4	99.8+% IPA	—	1 gal container, 4/cs
1610-5G	99.8+% IPA	—	5 gal container
1610-54G	99.8+% IPA	—	54 gal drum
1608-100DSP	70% IPA	Non-woven poly	Disposable tub, 100ct
1608CP-150DSP	70% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Disposable tub, 150ct
1608-100FL	70% IPA	Non-woven poly	Flip-top tub, 100ct
1608-100R	70% IPA	Non-woven poly	Refill rolls, 100ct
1608CP-150R	70% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Refill rolls, 150ct
1610-100DSP	99.8+% IPA	Non-woven poly	Disposable tub, 100ct
1610CP-150DSP	99.8+% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Disposable tub, 150ct
1610-100FL	99.8+% IPA	Non-woven poly	Flip-top tub, 100ct
1610-100R	99.8+% IPA	Non-woven poly	Refill rolls, 100ct
1610CP-150R	99.8+% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Refill rolls, 150ct
1608-50PK	70% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Individually wrapped, 50ct
1610-50PK	99.8+% IPA	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Individually wrapped, 50ct
1606-30PK	90% Ethanol	Commercial-grade poly-cellulose	Individually wrapped, 50ct



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