



WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A HAND SANITISER



CHOOSE AN ALCOHOL-BASED HAND SANITISER WHERE POSSIBLE

The World Health Organization (WHO) advises that “an effective alcohol-based hand rub product should contain between 60% and 80% of alcohol and its efficacy should be proven according to the European Norm 1500 or the standards of the ASTM International (formerly, the American Society for Testing and Materials).”¹ The preference for alcohol-based sanitisers is because alcohol has undergone far more testing than non-alcohol as a germ-killing agent.^{2, 3}

ENSURE YOUR SANITISER IS BIOCIDAL

Many products listed as hand sanitisers, including some released on the market during the COVID-19 pandemic, do not have biocidal properties. Biocidal products are proven to kill germs according to European EN norms whereas non-biocidal hand cleaners give an artificial impression of cleanliness with no guarantee of effective germ kill. Make sure that the hand sanitiser you are using carries biocidal claims such as, “PURELL® Advanced Hygienic Hand Rub kills 99.99% of most common germs that may be harmful”.

CHOOSE A SANITISER WITH HIGH ANTIMICROBIAL EFFICACY

As well as killing 99.99% of most common germs that may be harmful, both PURELL Advanced Hygienic Hand Rub and PURELL Advanced Hygienic Hand Sanitising Foam conform to bactericidal norm EN1500 in 30 seconds; have the virucidal norm EN14476 which is met from 30 seconds; and pass EN12791, the surgical disinfectant norm.

CHOOSE A SANITISER CONTAINING MOISTURISERS

Formulation matters. Some alcohol-based hand sanitisers can have a drying effect on skin. Make sure that your hand sanitiser is specially formulated with moisturisers to keep skin healthy.

FOLLOW THE PROPER PROTOCOL FOR USE

Apply the product to dry hands and rub hands, wrists, around the nails and between fingers for at least 30 seconds until completely dry. If hands are visibly soiled, use soap and water instead.

1. World Health Organization. (2020). Recommendations to Member States to improve hand hygiene practices to help prevent the transmission of the COVID-19 virus: interim guidance, 1 April 2020. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/331661>. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO | 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Wash Your Hands. <http://cdc.gov/features/handwashing> | 3. Boyce, J.M. and Pittet, D., Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Health-Care Settings. Recommendations of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and the HICPAC/SHEA/APIC/IDSA Hand Hygiene Task Force. Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America/Association for Professionals in Infection Control/Infectious Diseases Society of America. MMWR Recommendations and Reports 51, 1-45, Oct. 25, 2002. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5116a1.htm> For European Markets Only. ©2020. GOJO Industries-Europe Ltd. All rights reserved. LIT-INFO-C19-SAN-UK-V9
Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

