Sanitation and Food Safety Rules

Illness-causing bacteria can survive in many places around your kitchen, including your hands, utensils, and cutting boards.

Sanitation Rules

- 1. Be sure that work areas and equipment are clean before you start preparing food.
- 2. Sanitize counters and work areas with a sanitizer before and after use.
- 3. Avoid cross-contamination letting microorganisms from one food get into another.
- 4. Wash the top of a can before opening it to keep dirt from getting into the food.
- 5. If you use a spoon to taste food during preparation, wash it after each use to avoid transferring harmful bacteria from your mouth to the food you are preparing.
- 6. Keep pets out of the kitchen. They may bring in dirt, germs, or bugs from outside.
- 7. Dishcloths and sponges can harbor harmful bacteria. Use a clean dishcloth each day. Wash sponges at the end of the day and allow them to air-dry before reuse.
- 8. Never use dish towels to wipe spills, the floor, or for anything other than drying dishes. Use paper towels for drying hands.
- 9. Wash dishes and dry dishes properly using the following techniques:
 - a. Scrape all garbage from dishes and place in proper containers.
 - b. Rinse to remove small food particles and sauces.
 - c. Stack dishes properly. Put all silverware together. Put like dishes together, such as dinner plates, saucers, bowls, etc.
 - d. Fill sink with hot soapy water.
 - e. Wash dishes in this order: glasses, flatware, dishes, pots and pans, skillets.
 - f. Change dishwater if needed.
 - g. Rinse dishes in hot water.
 - h. Allow to air dry or dry with a clean towel and put away.
- 10. Keep large appliances clean inside and out.
- 11. Floor should be kept clean by frequent mopping.
- 12. Keep trash cans clean. Periodically wash with hot soapy water, rinse, and let air dry.
- 13. Occasionally clean behind the stove and refrigerator and wipe off cabinet shelves.



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Food Safety

- 14. Never store food under the sink.
- 15. Never taste food that might be spoiled. Throw it away.
- 16. Do not let food spoil in the refrigerator.
- 17. Promptly refrigerate leftovers in clean, covered containers.
- 18. Wipe or wash lids, caps, and the outside of bottles and jars before putting back in the refrigerator.
- 19. Use separate cutting boards one for meats, chicken, and fish and the other for everything else.
- 20. Wash fruits and vegetables in cold water before you peel or chop them.
- 21. Keep raw meats, chicken and seafood in separate grocery bags away from other groceries.
- 22. Store meats on the bottom shelf of your refrigerator so juices will not contaminate other foods.
- 23. Thaw meats in the refrigerator or microwave. Never on the counter or sink.
- 24. Use a meat thermometer to check that meats and poultry reach the right temperature to eat.
- 25. Never eat raw eggs or anything with raw eggs in it. Always cook thoroughly.
- 26. Follow the directions on frozen meals. Undercooking frozen meals could lead to food poisoning.
- Sanitizing solution: Add 1 teaspoon regular household bleach to 1 guart (4 cups) of tap water in a spray bottle. Sanitize counters, cutting boards, tables, utensils, etc. before and after use.

Note:

- Wear and apron and gloves when adding bleach to water as bleach can discolor clothes.
- Spray bottles must be labeled.
- Store out of children's reach.
- Replace sanitizing solution often.

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