

## How to use Clorox Bleach for: Emergency Water Purification

*The following is the text from a full page ad by Clorox*

### **Boiling Is Best**

Short of using a very high-quality water filter, this is the most reliable method for killing microbes and parasites. Bring water to a rolling boil and keep it simmering for at least several minutes. Add one minute of boiling to the initial 10 minutes for every 1,000 feet above sea level. Cover the pot to shorten boiling time and conserve fuel.

### **Liquid Clorox Bleach**

In an emergency, think of this (one gallon of Regular Clorox Bleach) as 3,800 gallons of drinking water.

When the tap water stops flowing, Regular Clorox Bleach isn't just a laundry-aid, it's a lifesaver. Use it to purify water, and you'll have something to drink.

It's the same in any natural disaster. As the shock wears off and the days wear on, the biggest demand is for drinking water. Time after time, relief crews hand out free Clorox Bleach with simple instructions: use it to kill bacteria in your water and you'll have purified water to drink. Here's how: (Store these directions with your emergency bottle of Clorox Bleach.)

First let water stand until particles settle. Pour the clear water into an uncontaminated container and add Regular Clorox Bleach per the chart.\* Mix well. Wait 30 min. Water should have a slight bleach odor. If not, repeat dose. Wait 15 min. Sniff again. Keep an eyedropper taped to your emergency bottle of Clorox Bleach, since purifying small amounts of water requires only a few drops. **See chart\*** suggestions for storage bottle replacement.

Don't pour purified water into contaminated containers. To sanitize water jugs first, see instructions\*\* at right.

Without water and electricity, even everyday tasks are tough. In lieu of steaming hot water, sanitize dishes with a little Clorox Bleach. Just follow the directions below to keep dishes clean.

Whether you use Clorox Bleach in an emergency or for everyday chores, it's always an environmentally sound choice. After its work is done, Clorox Bleach breaks down to little more than salt and water, which is good news anytime.

### **\*Ratio of Clorox Bleach to Water for Purification**

- 2 drops of Regular Clorox Bleach per quart of water
- 8 drops of Regular Clorox Bleach per gallon of water
- 1/2 teaspoon Regular Clorox Bleach per five gallons of water
- If water is cloudy, double the recommended dosages of Clorox Bleach.
- Only use Regular Clorox Bleach not Fresh Scent or Lemon Fresh.
- To insure that Clorox Bleach is at its full strength, replace your storage bottle every three months.)

### **\*\*Clorox Bleach Sanitizing Solution**

Mix 1 tablespoon Regular Clorox Bleach with one gallon of water. Always wash and rinse items first, then let each item soak in Clorox Bleach Sanitizing Solution for 2 minutes. Drain and air dry.

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**UPDATE:** From the [Alpha Disaster Contingencies](#) website. There is literally hours of good reading there folks, pay them a visit.

**\*Clorox Bleach\***

By: Hayseed  
26 June 2005

Americans tend to spend a huge amount of money on specialized cleaning products. Sometimes the money we spend does make our cleaning regimes easier, but one product we take for granted is highly underestimated - Clorox

Bleach. We all use it in our laundry to keep our whites their whitest, but it has many more uses than just nice laundry.

Drinking water sanitation is best done by boiling for several minutes, but in times that boiling is not an option, bleach can do the job. Eight drops of Clorox Bleach per one gallon of water will sanitize and make that water drinkable after a 30 minute disinfectant time. One half teaspoon will sanitize five gallons of water. If the water is cloudy, it is safe to double the recommended dose. Be sure to only use the regular Clorox Bleach and not any of the scented varieties. For emergency (and camping) water storage, the water should be stored after already being sanitized. You can always sanitize again before use if you would feel better (remember it is safe to double the recommended dose). Make sure that if you are storing the sanitized water to first sanitize the storage container by using the sanitizing solution below.

A great disinfecting solution is ¼ cup bleach to one gallon of cool water. If you don't need that much then use 1 tablespoon of bleach to one quart of cool water. For areas that just get more germ exposure (diaper areas, chicken coops, etc.) then stiffen up the bleach to ½ cup per one quart of water. A good soaking solution (for toys, eating utensils, food preparation tools and so forth) use 1 tablespoon bleach to 1 gallon of cool water, soak for two minutes and if time permits allow to air dry. Always wash items before sanitizing.

After the bleach is done with its work, it breaks down to a tad more than salt and water, making it environmentally safe and sound. I have always used Clorox Bleach because it's an old and proven name. It's the most tested bleach ever and has a history with the big time chicken hatcheries - they use it to disinfect everything chicken related. And if it can clean up after a chicken, it can disinfect just about anything!

Lastly, there's always the obvious use for bleach - laundry. Bleach will effectively clean body soil from fabrics - Regular Clorox Bleach for whites and Clorox 2 for colors. Not even a stain remover will get rid of body soil as well as bleach.

Another important thing to remember is the difference between cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing. Cleaning is the removal of dirt, grease, debris and many of the germs by scrubbing with soap or detergent and water, then rinsing. Disinfecting is the killing of disease causing germs on surfaces, either with a germicide (such as Clorox bleach) or a physical agent such as high temperature. Sanitizing is the reducing of the number of disease causing germs to what is considered a "safe level" by using a method of disinfecting. Bleach is economical, but does lose its strength and effectiveness as it is exposed to air. Therefore, one should make up a new bleach solution each day you need it.

Easy, cheap and cost efficient in so many ways!  
Hayseed

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[www.alpharubicon.com](http://www.alpharubicon.com)

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