

You can get sick from getting germs on your hands and then touching your eyes, nose, mouth or food. Prevent getting infections by cleaning your hands frequently and thoroughly.



## When to Clean Your Hands?

BEFORE: Touching eyes, nose, & mouth; and preparing & eating food

AFTER: Handling garbage, animals, animal food & waste; being in the bathroom for any reason; and blowing your nose, sneezing & coughing

**BEFORE & AFTER: Helping someone who is sick or injured** 



- 1. Wet your hands with clean water.
- 2. Lather your hands with soap, including the backs, under nails and between fingers.
- 3. Scrub hands for at least 20 seconds, long enough to sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
- 4. Rinse hands thoroughly.
- 5. Dry hands with a clean towel or air dry.

## Germs in Health-Care Settings

- Providers wash hands frequently and before putting on gloves.
- Patients may ask providers to clean hands.



## **Using Hand Sanitizer**

- Use sanitizer that's at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Rub product on hands, fingertips, thumbs, back of hands and between fingers.
- Continue rubbing hands until hands feel dry (about 20 seconds).



20 seconds is needed to scrub your hands correctly.



5% of hand washers scrub for at least 15 seconds.

## Germ Facts



1 in 5 people don't wash their hands after using the bathroom.



100 MPH is how fast germs travel during a sneeze.



**1 trillion** is the number of germs in one gram (1/4 teaspoon) of human feces.





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