

Decontaminating and disinfecting your plastic labware

Decontamination of the workstation is important to keeping you and your research safe. There are three common laboratory cleaning scenarios:

- 1 Decontamination**
Removal of harmful or dangerous microorganisms, radiation, or other substances
- 2 Disinfection**
Removal of specific harmful microorganisms
- 3 Sterilization**
Removal of all classes of microorganisms, including spores

This cleaning guide offers tips and best practices for cleaning your lab space and Thermo Scientific™ Nalgene™ Labware, which will help ensure you are able to maintain a safe working environment.

	Cleaning guidelines	Products
Aqueous solution and buffer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clean with distilled water and allow to dry 	 Nalgene Right-to-Know Washbottles  Nalgene Right-to-Understand Safety Washbottles  Nalgene Unitary Washbottles  Nalgene Color-Coded Washbottle
Acid and alkalis		
Organic solvents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wipe surface in a detergent solution, rinse several times with distilled water, allow to dry 	 Nalgene Buckets, Pails and Storage Tubs  Nalgene Pans, Trays and Baskets  Nalgene Pipette Cleaning Equipment  Nalgene L900 Liquid Detergent
Proteins		
DNA and RNA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wipe at least 3% (w/v) sodium hypochlorite for 15 min Treat the surface with Thermo Scientific™ DNA AWAY™ Surface Decontaminant Expose the surface to ultraviolet light for 30 – 60 min <p>No special treatment is required to remove RNA because it degrades rapidly and is sensitive to ubiquitous RNase</p>	 DNA AWAY Surface Decontaminant  RNase AWAY Surface Decontaminant
DNase and RNase	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clean with a detergent solution, then thoroughly rinse with water followed by 95% ethanol to speed drying Spray surface with Thermo Scientific™ RNase AWAY™ Surface Decontaminant Autoclave for 15 min at 121°C/250°F 	 Nalgene Autoclave Pans, Trays and Baskets
Viruses, mycoplasma, bacteria, and fungi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expose surface to ultraviolet radiation to inactivate germs Use wipe formulated to kill microbes <p>Remember to always properly dispose of biohazard waste</p>	 Nalgene Biohazard Waste Containers  Nalgene Large Waste Container with Cover  Nalgene Safety Waste Funnel Systems  Nalgene Safety Waste Funnel
Radioactive solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use a strong detergent or cleaning solution, rinse several times with distilled water and allow to dry. All used cleaning materials are radioactive waste and must be disposed of according to regulations 	 Nalgene Acrylic Benchtop Beta Radiation Shield with/without Bottle  Nalgene Biohazardous Waste Containers

Thermo Scientific Nalgene™ Cleaning Supplies are built to withstand daily use in busy labs thanks to their rugged construction from plastic materials designed for repeated chemical exposure. From sink to autoclave to pans, baskets, buckets, waste disposal, and pipet washing equipment, your toughest lab cleaning jobs are covered.

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