

More from Dr. Lerner:
July 23, 2020

A number of folks had questions about **cleaning and air filters**. The links below on this new EPA resource can be used to address these questions.
COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. However, there is a possibility that spread of COVID-19

View this bulletin as a webpage / Share

[COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. However, some uncertainty remains about the relative importance of different routes of transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\). There is growing evidence that this virus can remain airborne for longer times and further distances than originally thought. In addition to close contact with infected people and contaminated surfaces, there is a possibility that spread of COVID-19 may also occur via airborne particles in indoor environments, in some circumstances beyond the 2 m \(about 6 ft\) range encouraged by social distancing recommendations](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbI9saW5rX2kljoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2NvbnRlbnQuZ292ZGVsaXZlcnkUy29tL2FjY291bnRzL1VTRVBBSUFRL2J1bGxldGlucy8yOTZINzNkln0.B15pRv_pOMKjjZdnuRhAuuH7hJaEBmaXZEoKXMNsI8o/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l-></p></div><div data-bbox=)

However, there are straightforward steps that can be taken to reduce potential airborne transmission of COVID-19 and the focus of this material is on those measures. The layout and design of a building, as well as occupancy and type of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system, can all impact potential airborne spread of the virus.

Although improvements to ventilation and air cleaning cannot on their own eliminate the risk of airborne transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, EPA recommends precautions to reduce the potential for airborne transmission of the virus. These precautions include increasing ventilation with outdoor air and air filtration as part of a larger strategy that includes social distancing, wearing cloth face coverings or masks, surface cleaning and disinfecting, handwashing, and other precautions.
[By themselves, measures to reduce airborne exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19 are not enough since airborne transmission is not the only way exposure to SARS-CoV-2 could potentially occur.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbI9saW5rX2kljoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzP3V0bV9jb250ZW50PSZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWIsJnV0bV9uYW11PSZ1dG1fc291cmNIPWdvdmlRlG12ZXJ5JnV0bV90ZXJtPSJ9.mUTynzUNNKhpkewhQE90yyRziQxP34DvXqIKMGEXN28/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->,</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Topics Covered on EPA's Indoor Air and COVID-19 webpage

[include:](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbI9saW5rX2kljoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzL2luZG9vci1haXItYW5kLWNvcn9uYXZpcnVzLWNvdmkLTE5P3V0bV9jb250ZW50PSZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWIsJnV0bV9uYW11PSZ1dG1fc291cmNIPWdvdmlRlG12ZXJ5JnV0bV90ZXJtPSJ9.s0y2I02hQmiV6lnlwTTCI3-tlgbEUSH6t92oXAXCP8/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->)

[Z292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzL2luZG9vci1haXltYW5kLWNvdmlkLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->](https://www.epa.gov/air-quality/indoor-air-quality-issues)

Please supplement this information with the latest advice from state, local, Tribal and federal agencies.

If you have additional questions about COVID-19 and indoor air, disinfectants, drinking water or other topics, please visit EPA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) website

<https://lnks.gd//eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGjJAYlslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzP3V0bV9jb250ZW50PSZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWIsJnV0bV9uYW1IPSZ1dG1fc291cmNIPWdvdmlkLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l-> and

Frequent Questions Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<https://lnks.gd//eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGjJAYlslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzL2ZyZXF1ZW50LXF1ZXR0aW9ucy1yZWxhdGVkLWNvcm9uYXZpcnVzLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l-> for more information.

For multilingual web content on the Coronavirus, indoor air quality and other environmental health issues, visit:

www.epa.gov/lep <https://lnks.gd//eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGjJAYlslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzL2ZyZXF1ZW50LXF1ZXR0aW9ucy1yZWxhdGVkLWNvcm9uYXZpcnVzLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->>. EPA is continuing to add multilingual content and updating the FAQ list frequently, so please consider checking it routinely.

All best practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) related to COVID-19 should be followed.

*** How to Protect Yourself and Others**

<https://lnks.gd//eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGjJAYlslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzL2ZyZXF1ZW50LXF1ZXR0aW9ucy1yZWxhdGVkLWNvcm9uYXZpcnVzLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->>

*** Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Home**

<https://lnks.gd//eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGjJAYlslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5lcGEuZ292L2Nvcm9uYXZpcnVzL2ZyZXF1ZW50LXF1ZXR0aW9ucy1yZWxhdGVkLWNvcm9uYXZpcnVzLW5kLWtleS1yZWZlcmVuY2VzLWFuZC1wdWJsaWNhdGlvbnM_dXRtX2NvbnRlbnQ9JnV0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX25hbWU9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.d4-m-tRGC3VpLB6mFVmpdWkZXgRADB0sDorifxKofXg/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->>

[U9JnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkmdXRtX3Rlcm09In0.GN i -g9ozW4hMkJJ-ZM27ZtCsGKfprS9bOCFlyp12M/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTUslnVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGlljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzLzlwMTktbmNvdi9jb21tdW5pdHkvY2xiYW4tZGlzaW5mZW50LWdlHRpbmctc2ljay9kaXktY2xvdGgtZmFjZS1jb3Zlcm9uZ3MudHRtbD91dG1fY29udGVudD0mdXRtX21lZGI1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbmFtZT0mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSZ1dG1fdGVybnR0ifQ.LdYkjZp9HfSrewlqv5ilBQexTG3veij1nTnaFjaS6us/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l)

*** Community, Work and School: Cleaning and Disinfecting**

[https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTUslnVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGlljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzLzlwMTktbmNvdi9jb21tdW5pdHkvY2xiYW4tZGlzaW5mZW50LWdlHRpbmctc2ljay9kaXktY2xvdGgtZmFjZS1jb3Zlcm9uZ3MudHRtbD91dG1fY29udGVudD0mdXRtX21lZGI1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbmFtZT0mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSZ1dG1fdGVybnR0ifQ.LdYkjZp9HfSrewlqv5ilBQexTG3veij1nTnaFjaS6us/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTUslnVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGlljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzLzlwMTktbmNvdi9jb21tdW5pdHkvY2xiYW4tZGlzaW5mZW50LWdlHRpbmctc2ljay9kaXktY2xvdGgtZmFjZS1jb3Zlcm9uZ3MudHRtbD91dG1fY29udGVudD0mdXRtX21lZGI1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbmFtZT0mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSZ1dG1fdGVybnR0ifQ.LdYkjZp9HfSrewlqv5ilBQexTG3veij1nTnaFjaS6us/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l)

*** Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19**

[https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTUslnVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGlljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzLzlwMTktbmNvdi9wcmV2ZW50LWdlHRpbmctc2ljay9kaXktY2xvdGgtZmFjZS1jb3Zlcm9uZ3MudHRtbD91dG1fY29udGVudD0mdXRtX21lZGI1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbmFtZT0mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSZ1dG1fdGVybnR0ifQ.LdYkjZp9HfSrewlqv5ilBQexTG3veij1nTnaFjaS6us/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l->](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2kljoxMTUslnVyaSI6ImJwMjpbGlljaylslmJ1bGxldGluX2kljoiMjAyMDA3MjMuMjQ3OTI4NzEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5jZGMuZ292L2Nvcn9uYXZpcnVzLzlwMTktbmNvdi9wcmV2ZW50LWdlHRpbmctc2ljay9kaXktY2xvdGgtZmFjZS1jb3Zlcm9uZ3MudHRtbD91dG1fY29udGVudD0mdXRtX21lZGI1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbmFtZT0mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSZ1dG1fdGVybnR0ifQ.LdYkjZp9HfSrewlqv5ilBQexTG3veij1nTnaFjaS6us/s/976108922/br/81420969546-l)