

COVID-19 on Surfaces

HOW LONG IS COVID-19 DETECTABLE ON SURFACES?		
	AIR	3 HOURS
	COPPER	4 HOURS
	CARDBOARD	24 HOURS
	STAINLESS STEEL	2-3 DAYS
	PLASTIC	3 DAYS

SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials.

Experts agree that thorough and frequent hand washing as well as following best practices on disinfecting and cleaning surfaces are the best steps to prevent the spread of the virus.

National Institutes of Health found that the virus can live "in aerosols for up to three hours, up to four hours on copper, up to 24 hours on cardboard and up to two to three days on plastic and stainless steel."

In general, because of poor survivability of these coronaviruses on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from food products or packaging. Current evidence suggests that

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HOW LONG DO CORONAVIRUSES* LIVE ON SURFACES?

SURFACE	EXAMPLES	DAYS OR HOURS
Metal	Doorknobs, Jewelry, Silverware	5 Days
Glass	Drinking glasses, Mirrors, Windows	UP TO 5 Days
Ceramics	Dishes, Pottery, Mugs	5 Days
Paper	Newspaper, Magazines	UP TO 5 Days
Wood	Furniture, Decking	4 Days
Plastics	Milk bottles, Bus seats, Elevator buttons	2-3 Days
Stainless Steel	Refrigerators, Pots/pans, Sinks, Water bottles	2-3 Days
Cardboard	Shipping boxes	1 Day
Aluminum	Soda cans, Tinfoil, Water bottles	2-8 Hours
Copper	Pennies, Teakettles, Cookware	4 Hours
Food/Water	Doesn't seem to spread through food, and has not been found in water.	