

Dog Enclosure Spot Cleaning

General Sanitation Practices

- Prior to performing sanitation of dog enclosures, dogs should be observed for changes in physical and behavioral health and findings documented as appropriate.
- Individuals performing sanitation should wear appropriate, clean, protective outerwear and care should be taken to properly [don and doff attire](#).
- Each animal housing area should have designated, labeled cleaning equipment for use exclusively in that area. Such equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after use.
- In most situations, and especially for dogs that are anxious, fearful, or stressed, spot cleaning is the preferred method for daily care.

Indications for Spot Cleaning

- Daily when dog will be remaining in the same enclosure
- When the enclosure is lightly soiled
- When the occupant(s) is generally healthy

Supplies

- Gloves
- Detergent solution
- Garden sprayer/spray bottle
- Poop scooper
- Scrub brush/rags
- Clean enclosure supplies

Step-by-Step

1. Leave occupant in place or gently encourage them to move to the opposite side of the enclosure or into a kennel/crate within the enclosure, when available. *The enclosures of animals displaying aggression or fear towards people can only be safely and humanely spot cleaned while they are secured in the opposite side of double compartment housing or a hiding area (such as a crate) during cleaning.*
2. Remove food and water bowls from enclosure and place aside. Shake out bedding into trash as needed.
3. Remove soiled linens or objects and scoop any feces, vomit, or food items from the kennel floor.
4. Inspect kennel floor, walls, and furnishings for lightly soiled areas. If found, apply detergent solution directly to soiled area using spray bottle.
5. Using clean rag or scrub brush, wipe soiled areas until visibly clean and dry.
6. Replace any soiled items with clean ones.
7. After performing hand sanitation or changing gloves, refresh food and water bowls as needed and return them to the enclosure.
8. Ensure occupant has full access to enclosure.
9. Clean and disinfect any equipment prior to using in another enclosure.