

# HOMEMADE HAND SANITIZER



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

There is no substitute for washing hands with soap and water. However, as people find themselves in settings without soap and running water, they turn to hand sanitizer, which is increasingly hard to find. MCD follows the quicker method outlined by [Wired](#), which also lists a more resource-intensive spray sanitizer recipe also approved by the World Health Organization (WHO).

## RECOMMENDED AGE/SKILL LEVEL:

Recommended for children 12+. Adult supervision recommended.

## MATERIALS

- Aloe vera gel
- Isopropyl alcohol (above 60% alcohol, with 90% or higher recommended)
- Mixing bowl or container
- Tool for mixing
- Tool for measurement
- Travel-sized glass or plastic container with lid
- Bleach for tools sanitization
- *Optional:* Funnel for pouring mixture into container and tea tree oil or skin-safe essential oil for scent



## INSTRUCTIONS

*Note:* Tools used for mixing should be [sanitized](#) so they do not contaminate your mixture. Tools can be submerged in a mixture of 1 gallon of warm water to 1 teaspoon of unscented chlorine bleach to sanitize. After submerging tools and containers, let them dry on a clean and sanitized surface or rack (no used dish towels).

# HOMEMADE HAND SANITIZER

1. Find a clean work area. Assess what quantity of hand sanitizer will fit in your chosen container.
2. With quantity in mind, measure 3 parts alcohol to 1 part aloe vera into a mixing bowl or container (we have used a small glass container). *If available, add about 2 drops of tea tree oil or essential oil for scent.*
3. Mix the ingredients together well.
4. Carefully pour your mixture into the desired container.
5. Per WHO recommendations, let your sanitizer sit for 72 hours before use, to be sure that any contaminants will be killed off by the alcohol. Please note that your sanitizer will separate over time and you'll want to shake it up before use.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### CONNECT SOCIALLY AND LEARN MORE

**Facebook & Instagram:** @MuseumofCraftandDesign

**Twitter** @SF\_MCD

**Share your project!**

Post and tag #MCDatHome

#### Websites

- [Why Soap Works](#) via *The New York Times*
- Have an aloe plant at home? [Learn to harvest aloe](#) and then [try this version](#) of the sanitizer recipe!
- Local, artisanal hand sanitizers:
  - Sonoma's [Prohibition Spirits Distillery](#)
  - [Falcon Spirits Distillery](#) in Richmond
  - [Seven Stills](#) in Mission Bay
- [Learn more about local groups](#) making and distributing hand sanitizer to vulnerable populations.