No matter how carefully food is cooked, without a clean and sanitized environment, pathogens can be quickly transferred to both cooked and uncooked food. To prevent cross-contamination from surfaces, the correct cleaning and sanitizing procedures must be followed.

## Cleaning and Sanitizing

Food-contact surfaces must be both cleaned and sanitized correctly.

- Cleaning removes food and other dirt from a surface.
- Sanitizing reduces pathogens on a surface to safe levels.



## How Cross-Contamination Can Occur

Pathogens can spread to food if equipment has not been cleaned and sanitized correctly. This can happen in the following ways.

- Equipment and utensils are not washed, rinsed, and sanitized between uses.
- Food-contact surfaces are wiped clean rather than being washed, rinsed, and sanitized.
- Wiping cloths are not stored in a sanitizer solution between uses.
- Sanitizing solutions are not at the required levels to sanitize objects.


## How and When to Clean and Sanitize

Any surface that touches food, such as knives, stockpots, cutting boards, and prep tables, must be cleaned and sanitized. To clean and sanitize a surface, follow these steps.


Scrape or remove food bits from the surface.


Rinse the surface.


Wash the surface.


Sanitize the surface.
(5) Allow the surface to air-dry.

All food-contact surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized after they are used; before food handlers start working with a different type of food; any time food handlers are interrupted during a task and the items being used may have been contaminated; and after four hours if items are in constant use.

Directions: Place an $\mathbf{X}$ next to each situation that requires the food handler to clean and sanitize the item being used.
$\qquad$ 1. Catalina has used the same knife to shuck oysters for 2 hours.
2. Justin finishes filleting fish and wants to use the same cutting board to chop onions.
3. Cary is deboning a chicken. She is interrupted to help receive a shipment and leaves her dirty knife and cutting board for an hour while other people are working around it.
$\qquad$ 4. Armaan uses the same knife and cutting board to chop meat for an hour. He then switches to a new, clean and sanitized knife and cutting board to debone chicken.
$\qquad$ 5. Brian has been using the same slicer to slice ham on and off for 6 hours.

Directions: Place an $\mathbf{X}$ next to each action that can spread pathogens from the body to food.


Store wiping cloths in apron pockects


Wipe the food-contact surface clean


Store wiping cloths in a sanitizer solution


Wash the food-contact surface

