

# How Long Does COVID-19 Live?

Evidence suggest that the virus may survive on surfaces for a few hours or up to several days depending on various factors, such as the type of surface, humidity of the environment, exposure to heat, cold, sunlight, and ventilation.

**Metal**

**5  
days**

Doorknobs,  
jewelry, silverware

**Ceramics**

**5  
days**

Dishes, pottery, mugs

**Glass**

**4-5  
days**

Drinking glasses,  
measuring cups,  
mirrors, windows

**Wood**

**4  
days**

Furniture, decking

**Plastics**

**2-3  
days**

Packaging like milk  
containers and detergent  
bottles, subway and  
bus seats, backpacks,  
elevator buttons

**Cardboard**

**24  
hours**

Shipping boxes

**Aluminum**

**2-8  
hours**

Soda cans, tinfoil,  
water bottles

**Copper**

**4  
hours**

Teakettles, cookware

**Disposable  
gown**

**1-2  
days**

**Stainless  
Steel**

**2-3  
days**

Refrigerators, pots  
and pans, sinks,  
some water bottles

**Paper**

**Varies**

Some strains of  
coronavirus live for  
only a few minutes on  
paper, others live for  
up to 5 days

## Tip

If you think a surface may be infected, clean it with simple disinfectant to kill the virus and protect yourself and others. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

**COVID-19  
Call Center  
1-844-568-0701**

If you need emergency  
medical attention, call 911  
and tell them you are having  
COVID-19-like symptoms.

