



# Cleaning Guide for Waterproof Computer Keyboards and Mice

## FAQ: What are the suggested cleaning instructions for waterproof computer keyboards and mice?

If you know how to wash your hands with soap and water, washing your keyboard and mouse can be just as easy – as long as they are waterproof. Keyboards and mice are the dirtiest surfaces you and your colleagues touch and share all day – if you wash your hands, shouldn't you wash your keyboard and mouse too?

[WetKeys Washable Keyboards \(www.WetKeys.com\)](http://www.WetKeys.com) offers many brands of waterproof and washable computer accessories to assist in equipment protection, disease prevention and health compliance. Please refer to the specific product manufacturer's information for details on how best to clean a particular item. Always observe the proper use instructions for all cleaning fluids and wear the appropriate protective clothing, rubber gloves or safety glasses as necessary.

## Topics:

- General Washing Instructions – *Spray-Wipe-Spray Method*
- Wash Procedure for Healthcare Facilities – *Sanitizing Dip Method*
- Cleaners and Disinfectants to Use
- Dishwasher Machine Washing (if applicable)
- Healthcare Environments
- Food Safety
- Cautions



### Cautions:

*Known material incompatibilities exist between certain plastics, silicones and their solvent counterparts. Silicone lubricants must be immediately washed off of silicone-rubber keyboards or permanent damage will occur and void your product warranty. If in doubt, contact*

[WetKeys Customer Service \(customerservice@wetkeys.com\)](mailto:customerservice@wetkeys.com).

*Remember, even though a WetKeys keyboard and mouse are among the most durable computer products made, they still contain delicate and sensitive electronics and switches inside that can be damaged through inappropriate handling.*

*These Cleaning Instructions are SUGGESTIONS ONLY and are provided to guide appropriate cleaning methods for typical use. WetKeys Washable Keyboards does not*

*warrant or assume responsibility for damages resulting from the application of these cleaning instructions. No cleaning procedures can absolutely guarantee sterility or effectiveness of removing biohazards or chemical residues. **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, please contact WetKeys Washable Keyboards or your local health department before following these cleaning instructions.***

## General Washing Instructions

### Spray-Wipe-Spray Method

1. If your computer or tablet does not support "hot-swapping" a USB keyboard or mouse, log out and turn OFF the POWER to your computer or tablet.
2. To avoid accidental keystrokes, entering or deleting important data, DISCONNECT the product from your computer or tablet by:
  - a. Removing the keyboard or mouse USB plug from the computer or tablet (If you are using a USB - PS/2 adapter, please remove it completely before cleaning.)
  - b. Turning off the keyboard or mouse if equipped with an ON/OFF or "cleaning mode" switch
3. Before you wash a CORDED product, be sure that the USB Plug (connector) is kept safely away from the sink and remains dry. DO NOT place the USB or PS/2 connector into liquid. Battery powered WIRELESS products can be washed with batteries inside.
4. Clean the surface of the item by wiping, gently brushing, dipping it or by following the "spray-wipe-spray" protocol outlined by the CDC<sup>1</sup>. For the spray-wipe-spray method, spray the product and cord heavily with disinfecting spray, wipe away dirt and organic solids with a cloth then spray the product completely again with disinfecting spray allowing the disinfectant



to remain on the product for at least 90 seconds to continue killing remaining bacteria.

5. Either wipe with dry cloth or shake gently and allow to air dry. Never hang a keyboard or mouse by its cord or damage to the cable and watertight seal can occur.
6. Once the product and USB connector are completely dry, reconnect to computer or tablet.
7. Turn ON the computer.

Resources: <sup>(1)</sup>[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's \(CDC\) Infection Control Guidelines for Dental Healthcare Settings \(December 2003\)](#)



**NOTE: DO NOT "SOAK" Units or damage may result. Use only cloth towels, sponges or soft bristle brushes. DO NOT USE ANY BUFFING PADS, SCRUBBING PADS OR OTHER ABRASIVE CLEANSERS WHICH MAY DAMAGE THE FINISH OR COVER AND SEALS.**

## Wash Procedure for Healthcare Facilities

### Sanitizing Dip Method

1. Follow the instructions above to power OFF and disconnect the keyboard or mouse from a computer or tablet.
2. A washbasin should be filled with an approved anti-bacterial / cleaning solution suitable for sterilizing in a healthcare environment.
3. Sterilize by completely immersing and shaking keyboard and mouse in the sterilizing solution. Actively agitate it around so that the liquid reaches every recess on all surfaces.
4. The process of agitated immersion should require no more than 30 seconds to be effective. DO NOT "SOAK" units for several minutes or longer. Soaking is unnecessary and may void your product warranty.
5. On a drain board, allow the disinfectant to remain on the product for at least 90 seconds to continue killing remaining bacteria.
6. Shake gently to drain excess liquid and wipe dry with a clean cloth.



7. Once the product and USB connector are completely dry, reconnect to computer or tablet.
8. Turn ON the computer.



**NOTE: In order to maintain medical-grade sanitary conditions, your keyboard and mouse should be washed and sanitized prior to initial use. It is also important to wash a keyboard and mouse on a regularly scheduled interval appropriate for your use environment. Always follow your facility's infection prevention and hygiene protocols under the supervision of your governing body, local health department or Centers for Disease Control.**



## Cleaning Fluids & Disinfectants:

Most common or commercially available cleaning fluids and disinfectants can be safely used, including:

- **Chlorine based** (max 10% solution) - e.g. Clorox®, Nolvasan®, etc.
- **Formaldehyde based** - e.g. Formaldehyde Solution 37%, etc.
- **Glutaraldehydebased** - e.g. Wavicide-01®, Aldacide® 200, etc.
- **Phenol based** - e.g. Lysol® I.C., Magnaclean Bacteriacide, Tek-Trol® Disinfectant, etc.
- **Alcohol based** - e.g. CaviCide®, Isopropyl Alcohol, Medicide™ (POL-0.3), etc.
- **Oxidizing** - Hydrogen Peroxide 3% Solution, Vikron® S, etc.
- **Quaternary Ammonium** – Roccal®-D, Bacto-Sep®, Ascend®, SaniZene®etc.
- **Soap and warm water**

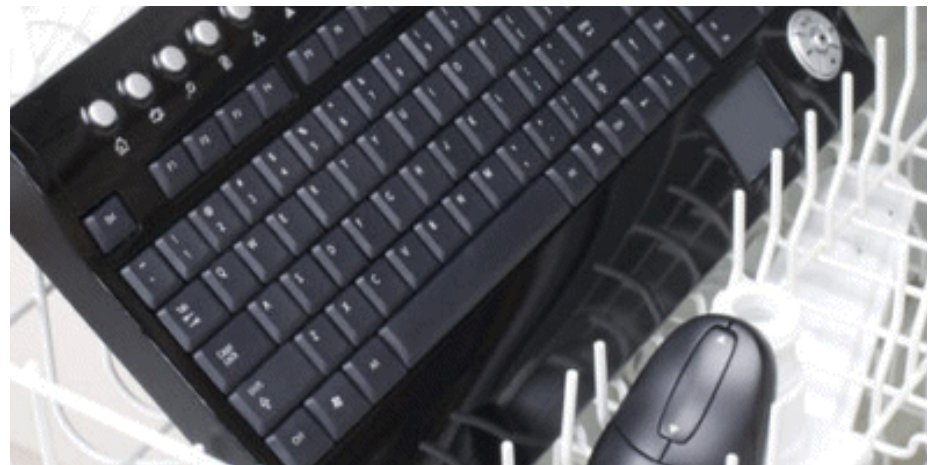


**DO NOT USE any Petroleum based solvents (e.g., Gasoline, Mineral Spirits, Turpentine, etc.), Acetone or cleaning solution containing in excess of 10% bleach. Product damage voiding warranty will result.**

## Dishwasher Machine Washing (select Seal Shield™ & iKey Products ONLY)

Some Seal Shield™ and iKey waterproof keyboards and mice are designed to be washed in a dishwasher using standard automatic dishwasher detergent.

1. Unplug keyboard or mouse from Quick-Connect™ cable, EZ-2-Connect cable or computer USB port.
2. Plug keyboard or mouse USB connector into the included Seal Cap™ or protective USB cap to insure a tight connection to prevent water intrusion.
3. Place keyboard or mouse on top rack of dishwasher keeping cords wrapped and safely away from all moving parts and door gaskets.
4. Wash in dishwasher using dishwasher detergent and standard wash cycle – NEVER “High-Temp” or “Sanitize”. Disable “Heated Drying.”
5. Remove from dishwasher. Shake dry. Wipe away excess surface moisture.
6. Remove the protective cap from USB connector. Be sure to shake and wipe all excess moisture from USB connector.
7. Once the product and USB connector are completely dry, reconnect to computer or tablet.
8. Turn ON the computer.



## Application-specific Suggestions

### Healthcare Environments:

Your facility's infection control procedures always take precedence over any of the above procedures. Consult your local health department, industry governing body or the [Centers for Disease Control \(www.cdc.gov\)](http://www.cdc.gov) for more information on proper medical hygiene.

### Food Safety:

Local Health codes or industry protocols must be followed. Contact the [National Sanitation Foundation \(www.nsf.org\)](http://www.nsf.org) for additional recommendations. Any governing body with jurisdiction over sanitation and sterilization requirements for your industry or geographic location must be followed over any of the above procedures.