

# Reopening Your Business:

*Disinfecting Protocols to Keep  
Employees & Customers Safe*

**CARPET TECH**



## Professional Disinfecting for COVID-19 and Other Pathogens

It's true, no one knows definitively how long coronavirus can live on a surface; that means, even if a room or building has been shuttered or vacant for a time, there is no guarantee that COVID-19 isn't still lurking about.

A [professional cleaning and disinfecting protocol](#) from a licensed and experienced company like Carpet Tech offers peace of mind not only for employees returning to work but for customers as they begin emerging from weeks of quarantine.



### CLEAN FOR COMPLIANCE

[OSHA General Duty Clause, 29 USC 654, section 5\(a\)\(1\)](#) requires that employers protect their employees from recognized hazards.

*“Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees.”*

Additionally, the coronavirus is not listed as an exception to recording an occupational illness in 29 CFR 1904.5(b)(2). This means that if an employee contracts COVID-19 from another employee or through occupational exposure on a cleaning job, the illness is recordable on the OSHA log for that business. If it results in job restriction, days away or fatality, this is also required to be recorded.

Not all companies need the same cleaning and disinfecting protocols. As you work with a professional cleaning and disinfecting company, ask for a thorough evaluation of your needs and a customized disinfecting plan that addresses all concerns and budget.



## BE PROACTIVE, NOT REACTIVE

There is a shift happening in the building maintenance industry. As facilities are emptied out due to forced coronavirus closure many owners and managers are finding that deep cleaning and disinfecting

in an empty building offers an opportunity for thoroughness and increased effectiveness.

The coronavirus pandemic has certainly raised awareness of personal hygiene and environmental cleanliness as well. Keeping surfaces and contents in a consistent state of clean, requires new protocol, new cleaning methods, and often professional assistance. Disinfecting to prevent not only COVID-19 but allergens, bacteria, and other viruses help businesses maintain a healthy workforce and bottom line.

Disinfecting now, before reopening, is the best way to reassure customers and employees without sacrificing

productivity to make way for a thorough sanitizing.

## BREATHE A LITTLE EASIER

Did you know you can take steps to manage the cleanliness of the air inside your establishment? [OSHA guidelines recommend installing high-efficiency air filters to increase ventilation.](#) But in order to be sure

the air circulation is as clean as possible, many businesses are opting for [air duct cleaning](#) and HVAC disinfecting fogs to help combat harmful pathogens, including COVID-19.

[The EPA has released guidelines and warnings for HVAC fogging.](#) Be sure antimicrobial products used to disinfect your company is registered for use in HVAC systems.



**Air Duct Cleaning  
& Disinfection**

## APPLICATION IS EVERYTHING

Part of developing a customized disinfection plan includes choosing the appropriate disinfecting processes and applications to achieve your goals.

Determine areas of application. Consider, for example, specific surfaces, walls, ceilings, floors, air ducts, or HVAC units. Also, [consult with a professional](#) to understand how different applications impact types of surfaces.

- **Direct Spray**

According to all manufacturer's recommendations, a chemical compound is mixed and sprayed on all necessary surfaces. Surface choices are determined during the assessment phase and agreed upon before treatment begins. This usually includes all high traffic areas and all



touchpoints. Proper application rates and dwell times are critical to the success of the treatment. With the proper chemical, a direct spray application does not require wiping or rinsing and leaves no residue.

- **Mechanical Wipe**

According to all manufacturer's recommendations, a chemical compound is mixed and sprayed on all necessary surfaces. Surface choices are determined during the assessment phase and agreed upon before treatment begins. This usually includes all high traffic areas and all touchpoints. Proper application rates and dwell times are critical to the success of the treatment. Unlike the direct spray method, mechanical wiping is used after the chemical has had time to treat the desired area.



- **Chemical Fog**

A chemical fog treatment can be used as a supplement to

either of the above treatment methods, but generally is not used as a replacement for the direct spray or mechanical wipe methods. Chemical fog treatments are recommended for HVAC system treatments in addition to the methods above OR a chemical fog treatment can be applied to the entire environment. This method provides treatment for the HVAC system as well as an additional treatment for areas hard to reach using the methods listed above.



viruses are easier to kill than certain bacteria or molds. Know what you are combating so you can be most effective with your chemical choices.

When choosing a disinfectant, be sure you read the manufacturer's labels for ingredients and precautions. Further, understanding the right application and dwell times will impact its effectiveness.

Whether you are disinfecting yourself or working with a professional, be sure to refer to the [EPA list](#) of safe and effective chemicals to properly combat your specific target pathogens.



## KNOW YOUR CHEMISTRY

It doesn't take a scientific degree to disinfect a desk, but understanding the science - both the dangers and benefits - behind disinfecting can not only save you time and money but possibly someone's health and well being. [Cleaning is not the same as disinfecting](#) to kill germs and viruses. First, it's important to understand the levels of disinfection. Some

**i** Carpet Tech uses ProKure 1, a chlorine dioxide-generating product, proven effective against use against SARS-CoV-2. Using electrostatic sprayers and foggers, Carpet Tech's IICRC certified technicians apply the disinfectant to all surfaces and contents in the building. This process is safe and usually requires a 2-hour kill and dry time.

## REPEL GERMS AFTER DISINFECTING



Disinfecting is an investment in employee confidence and health, but even with our best “in-between” cleanings, germs and viruses are ever-present. While disinfectants kill or inactivate germs on a surface, it doesn't last. As soon as that surface is touched, it can be recontaminated.

The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person. When someone who is infected coughs or sneezes, they send droplets containing the virus into the air. Research to date indicates that the coronavirus can live for hours to days on the surface depending on the type of surface.

Because there is so much we still don't know, shielding these surfaces after a [corporate cleaning](#) or [disinfecting your home](#), offers peace of mind. There are several chemical processes that coat disinfected surfaces with a protective barrier to prevent the growth of microbes but beware of guarantees and

outrageous claims. Be sure to understand the science behind effective anti-microbial protectants, like Carpet Tech's [CT Shield](#).



## MEASURE CLEANLINESS

Gauging cleanliness is too often subjective and based on unscientific methods. Just because a surface looks clean, doesn't mean it is. Bacteria, viruses, molds, and other harmful pathogens are invisible to the naked eye. Using appropriate [cleaning and disinfecting methods](#), paired with an efficient way of measuring cleanliness, ensures effectiveness and peace of mind.



If you are serious about the science behind the sanitation, look for a professional who can guarantee clean, using an ATP Monitor. [ATP Monitoring](#) allows certified and trained

technicians at Carpet Tech to measure and evaluate contaminants on a surface before and after cleaning and disinfection.



ATP (Adenosine Tri-Phosphate) is an energy molecule that is present in all living cells. If it is alive or was once alive, it contains ATP. This includes animal cells (dust, oils), plant cells (soils, oils), and bacterial cells (bacteria, viruses). For this reason, a measurement of ATP correlates to a measurement of how clean a surface is.



### CERTIFY CLEAN

You've done your homework, asked all the right questions, even come to a cursory understanding and appreciation of the science behind proper germ killing disinfection. Like many other corporate achievements, this too should be displayed. A legitimate, science-based professional disinfecting company, like Carpet Tech will certify their work, providing

business owners with an official Certificate of Completion. Re-opening businesses will take time, and no one wants to risk a resurgence of the coronavirus pandemic. Effective disinfecting can go a long way to not just keep people safe, but to provide that peace of mind we all seem to be craving.

**i** *Carpet Tech has been cleaning, disinfecting, and deodorizing commercial, industrial, and governmental buildings for more than two decades. Carpet Tech has the proper equipment, training, and licenses for biohazard clean up. They are also 100% OSHA compliant to clean biohazard materials and restore the property. Carpet Tech trained technicians are certified by the IICRC and use special truck-mounted equipment that allows us to clean using a hot water extraction method. All of Carpet Tech's chemicals and processes are EPA approved.*



# **CARPET TECH**

**Contact Your Local Office  
to Get Started**

**Lubbock**

806-795-5142

**Amarillo**

806-331-5142

**Permian Basin**

432-520-5142

**Clovis**

575-762-0086

**Collin County**

972-540-5142

