



Disinfectants active against avian influenza viruses

Disinfectant	Mixing/Dilution (H5 AI)	Contact Time	Suitable Uses	Compatibility (Enclosures, Gear, PPE)
Bleach (Sodium hypochlorite)	0.5–1% available chlorine (≈1:10 of 5% bleach)	≥10 min	Hard, non-porous surfaces; concrete floors; drains; equipment post-cleaning	✗ Corrosive to metals (cages, traps); damages fabrics, ropes; degrades PPE (especially nitrile with repeated exposure)
Virkon™	1% solution (10 g/L)	≥10–30 min	Footbaths, aviaries, transport crates, nets, vehicles, field gear	✓ Generally safe on plastics, rubber, stainless steel; ⚠ can fade fabrics with repeated use
F10®	1:250 (routine), up to 1:100 (high risk)	≥10–15 min	Clinic areas, incubators, small animal enclosures, delicate equipment	✓ Safe on most surfaces incl. acrylics, plastics, metals; PPE-friendly
Safe4®	1:50–1:100	≥10 min	Rescue enclosures, bedding areas (post-cleaning), transport crates	✓ Designed for animal housing; compatible with most materials incl. plastics and coated metals
Ethanol (70%)	Ready to use	≥1–2 min (keep wet)	Small equipment: thermometers, stethoscopes, scales, phones, radios	✓ Safe for electronics (wipe application); ✗ dries rubber over time
Isopropyl alcohol (60–70%)	Ready to use	≥1–2 min	Similar to ethanol; small tools and surfaces in vehicles or triage kits	✓ Electronics safe; ⚠ repeated exposure can damage some plastics
Quats (general benzalkonium-type)	~0.1–0.2% active (per label; ≈1:200–1:400)	≥10 min	Vehicle interiors, floors, boots, basic enclosures	✓ Good with plastics and coated surfaces; ⚠ reduced efficacy in heavy organic matter unless formulated

Disinfectants will be ineffective if applied to items that have not been properly decontaminated.