

How to keep your breast pump kit clean



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health

Providing breast milk is one of the best things you can do for your baby's health and development. Pumping your milk is one way to provide breast milk to your baby. Keeping the parts of your pump clean is critical, because germs can grow quickly in breast milk or breast milk residue that remains on pump parts. Following these steps can help prevent contamination and protect your baby from infection. If your baby was born prematurely or has other health concerns, your baby's health care providers may have more recommendations for pumping breast milk safely.

Before every use

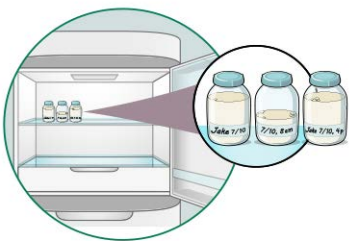


Wash hands with soap and water.

Inspect and assemble clean pump kit. If your tubing is moldy, discard and replace immediately.

Clean pump dials, power switch, and countertop with disinfectant wipes, especially if using a shared pump.

After every use



Store milk safely. Cap milk collection bottle or seal milk collection bag, label with date and time, and immediately place in a refrigerator, freezer, or cooler bag with ice packs.

Clean pumping area, especially if using a shared pump. Clean the dials, power switch, and countertop with disinfectant wipes.

Take apart breast pump tubing and separate all parts that come in contact with breast/breast milk.

Rinse breast pump parts that come into contact with breast/breast milk by holding under running water to remove remaining milk. Do not place parts in sink to rinse.

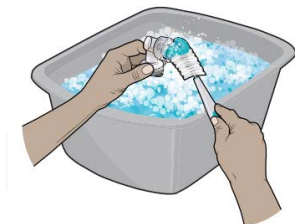
Clean pump parts that come into contact with breast/breast milk as soon as possible after pumping. You can clean your pump parts **in a dishwasher** or **by hand** in a wash basin used only for cleaning the pump kit and infant feeding items.

Follow the cleaning steps given on the next page.



Clean pump kit

Clean by hand



Place pump parts in a clean wash basin used only for infant feeding items. **Do not place pump parts directly in the sink!**

Add soap and hot water to basin.

Scrub items using a clean brush used only for infant feeding items.

Rinse by holding items under running water, or by submerging in fresh water in a separate basin.

Air-dry thoroughly. Place pump parts, wash basin, and bottle brush on a clean, unused dish towel or paper towel in an area protected from dirt and dust. Do not use a dish towel to rub or pat items dry!

Clean wash basin and bottle brush. Rinse them well and allow them to air-dry after each use. Wash them by hand or in a dishwasher at least every few days.

Or clean in dishwasher. Run the dishwasher using hot water and a heated drying cycle



After cleaning

For extra germ removal, sanitize pump parts at least once daily after they have been cleaned. Sanitizing is especially important if your baby is less than 3 months old, was born prematurely, or has a weakened immune system due to illness or medical treatment

Sanitizing



Dishwasher: Use the sanitizing setting.

Boiling water: Place disassembled items that are safe to boil into a pot and cover with water. Put the pot over heat and bring to a boil. Boil for 5 minutes and remove with clean tongs.

Steam bag in Microwave.

Store safely



Store dry items safely until needed. Ensure the clean pump parts, bottle brushes, and wash basins have air-dried thoroughly before storing. Items must be completely dry to help prevent germs and mold from growing. Store dry items in a clean, protected area.

Learn more about safe and healthy diapering and infant feeding habits at [cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/healthychildcare](https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/healthychildcare)