



Cistern Disinfection Instructions

Always use clean containers that are designed for water or food storage. You can use regular household bleach (5% chlorine) or commercial bleach products (usually 10-12% chlorine).

The table below shows how much regular household bleach to add to various size water containers to disinfect relatively clean water.

If you are treating water from a lake, stream or shallow well, use twice as much household bleach as indicated in the chart below and wait twice as long before drinking it (min. 2 hours).

Let the water stand for at least one hour after adding the bleach before you start drinking it. If the water is colder than 10°C or has a pH higher than 8, let the water stand for at least 2 hours before drinking it.

Gallons of water to disinfect	Amount of Household Bleach (5%) to add*
1 gal. (4.5 litres)	2 drops (0.18 mL)
2 1/5 gal. (10 litres)	5 drops (0.4 mL)
5 gal. (23 litres)	11 drops (0.9 mL)
10 gal. (45 litres)	22 drops (1.8 mL)
22 gal. (100 litres)	3/4 teaspoon (4 mL)
45 gal. (205 litres)	1 1/2 teaspoons (8 mL)
50 gal. (230 litres)	1 3/4 teaspoons (9 mL)
100 gal. (450 litres)	3 1/2 teaspoons (18 mL)
220 gal. (1000 litres)	8 teaspoons (40 mL)
500 gal. (2200 litres)	6 tablespoons (90 mL)
1000 gal. (4550 litres)	12 tablespoons (180 mL)