



# PANLEUKOPENIA

## FELINE DISTEMPER

# HOME DISINFECTION GUIDE

### DISINFECTING AFTER PANLEUKOPENIA

Disinfecting after a panleukopenia (feline parvovirus) outbreak is critical because this virus is extremely hardy and can survive in the environment for over a year if not properly destroyed. The following steps outline how to ensure a complete and safe decontamination.

#### STEP 1: REMOVE ORGANIC MATERIAL

Before disinfecting, clean all surfaces thoroughly:

- Remove all bedding, litter, toys, dishes, and debris.
- Wash visible dirt, feces, and organic matter using detergent and hot water.
- Organic matter can inactivate disinfectants, so cleaning first is essential.

#### STEP 2: USE THE RIGHT DISINFECTANT

Panleukopenia is resistant to most cleaners, including alcohol and many household disinfectants. The only proven effective disinfectants include the following:

##### **BLEACH SOLUTION (SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE)**

- Mix: 1 part bleach to 32 parts water ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup per gallon).
- Contact Time: At least 10 minutes on a pre-cleaned surface.
- Surfaces: Floors, cages, litter boxes, carriers, toys, bowls, and walls.
- Rinse with water after drying if animals will contact the area soon.

##### **RESCUE™ / ACCEL™ (ACCELERATED HYDROGEN PEROXIDE)**

- Effective and less corrosive than bleach.
- Follow label directions for dilution and contact time.
- Safe for most surfaces and easier on lungs and skin.

##### **TRIFECTANT™ / VIRKON™ S**

- Broad-spectrum disinfectant that kills parvoviruses.
- Good for hard-to-clean surfaces and large spaces.

#### STEP 3: DEEP CLEAN ALL AREAS

- Hard Surfaces: Mop floors, wipe walls, scrub corners, and sanitize door handles.
- Soft Items: Wash bedding, towels, and toys in hot water with bleach if possible. Otherwise, dispose of them.
- Food and Water Bowls: Soak in bleach solution, rinse well.
- Litter Boxes: Discard old litter, soak boxes in disinfectant for 10 minutes, rinse, and dry thoroughly.

#### STEP 4: HANDLE CONTAMINATED ITEMS SAFELY

- Anything porous (scratching posts, cardboard, carpet, etc.) is nearly impossible to disinfect. It is best to discard and replace these items.
- Wash hands, shoes, and clothing after handling contaminated areas using soap and hot water. Use dedicated shoes and clothing for cleaning.