

Mist vs. Manual Disinfection

A Data-Driven Comparison for Commercial Facilities

While manual cleaning is essential for soil removal, it often falls short in total pathogen eradication. This guide compares traditional "spray and wipe" methods against professional ULV fogging technology.

Feature	Manual Wipe Method	ULV Disinfectant Fogging
Surface Coverage	Limited to "high touch" areas. Misses 30-40% of surfaces.	360° Wrap-around coverage. Reaches every nook and cranny.
Human Error	High risk of missed spots or cross-contamination.	Low. Automated mist ensures uniform distribution.
Contact Time	Wiping often removes chemical before "dwell time" is met.	Controlled dwell time for maximum pathogen kill rate.
Downtime	Labor intensive; requires moving items manually.	Rapid application. Safe for re-entry in minutes.
Electronics	Risk of moisture damage from direct liquid spray.	"Dry" micron mist is safe for computers and sensitive gear.

The Expert Verdict: Manual cleaning prepares the surface; fogging secures the space. Wiping is vital for removing organic load, but only whole-room misting provides the 360-degree coverage needed to eliminate airborne and deep-seated pathogens. To achieve true bio- security, a facility must combine thorough manual cleaning with regular whole-room fogging.

Why Manual Wiping Often Fails

- **Cross-Contamination:** Moving a cloth from one surface to another can actually spread bacteria.
- **The "Hidden" 30%:** Pathogens live on undersides of chairs, vents, and vertical surfaces that are rarely wiped.
- **Chemical Evaporation:** Most disinfectants require 4-10 minutes of wet contact. Wiping them dry immediately renders them ineffective.