



**RESOURCE LIBRARY**  
**HOTEL OPERATIONS - HOUSEKEEPING**  
**Cleaning Chemicals – Their benefits and disadvantages**

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EDITION: 1

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**Description:**

**OBJECTIVE**

- To outline the advantages and disadvantages of various cleaning chemicals so that Housekeeper may have a ready reference.

| SR. NO. | PRODUCT                    | BENEFITS   | DISADVANTAGES  |
|---------|----------------------------|--|--|
| 1.      | All-purpose cleaners       | Only one product required; less inventory needed; most require no rinsing; remove organic & inorganic Soil, deodorize.                       | Different dilution needed for various surface, so instruction must be followed; not chemically formulated to remove heavy soil build-up  |
| 2.      | Cleaners                   | Contain chlorine bleach that kills germs; scours heavily soiled areas with minimum of effort. Necessary for badly worn and stained surfaces. | Unless finely ground abrasive is used, surfaces can be quickly worn and dulled especially porcelain and stainless steel. Employees tend to use too much. Harsh abrasives should be avoided in the cleaning of porcelain enamel and tile. |
| 3.      | Deodorizer                 | Effective where no ventilation or fresh air is available; many kill germs as well as odors.  | Leaves film and residue unless correctly. May have aroma of it's own that will be offensive.   |
| 4.      | Disinfectants              | Discourages some germs; mask unpleasant odors  | Has unpleasant odor or may damage grout in tile or metal surfaces.   |
| 5.      | Metal cleaners & polishers | Cleans and polishes in one operation.  | Must be applied according to directions or may streak and damage metals.   |
| 6.      | Furniture polishes         | Cleans and polishes in one operation; gives natural wood lustrous shine.   | Over-use can lead to polish build-up.  |
| 7.      | Paste Cleaners             | Will not scratch surfaces.   | Requires more effort to use than abrasives.  |
| 8.      | Tile cleaners              | Cleans grouting also, usually cream, easy to apply.  | Requires more effort to use than abrasives.  |
| 9.      | Toilet bowl cleaners       | Cleans and deodorizes; dissolves heavy scale.  | Irritates hands; may damage surfaces.  |