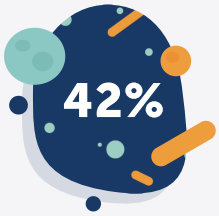
Why are jet air hand dryers less hygienic than paper towels?



Dirtier to the touch

Jet air dryers can increase germs on fingers up to 42%

Your hands may actually be more contaminated than before you washed them.

Dirtier surfaces

Jet air dryer surfaces can harbor more bacteria

Jet air dryers can have up to 1,000 times more bacteria on their surface compared to paper towel dispensers.

Dirtier environments

Jet air dryers disperse water droplets

When drying your hands with a jet air dryer, water droplets that could contain bacteria and germs are blown into the air, traveling as far as 6.5 feet and lingering in the air for up to 15 minutes.

Now ask yourself:

Are jet air dryers blowing your good hygiene practices?

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90% of people prefer paper towels over jet air dryers in the restroom

Hygiene adherence would possibly decrease if paper towels are not available in restrooms.

Paper towels can reduce bacteria on hands

Drying hands with a clean paper towel can remove up to 77% of the bacteria that remains after washing.

Paper towels physically remove bacteria

The rubbing process of paper towels physically removes bacteria along with moisture.

The recommended hand-drying method of the WHO

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that workers "dry hands thoroughly using single-use towels.[1]"

Innovative solutions that deliver unparalleled hygiene performance

Kimberly-Clark Professional hand-drying solutions help to reduce the spread of germs. Consider these key features when selecting the right hand-drying system for your workplace:

Ultra-Compact Design

Provide a hand-hygiene solution anywhere with a dispenser that fits into tight spaces.

Efficient Dispensing

Support hygiene by minimizing runouts with 20% fewer change-outs per unit (versus folded).

Touchless Technology

Boosts cleanliness by combining touchless technology with the bacteria-reducing benefits of hand towels.

Absorbency Pockets

Highly absorbent towels require fewer towels to dry hands. Wet hands can transfer up to 99% more bacteria to surfaces than dry hands.

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Take the next step

Get more tools and resources to create your workplace hygiene improvement plan.
To start improving, visit home.KCProfessional.com/NA-workplace-hygiene

1. WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care. Published by the World Health Organization, 2009.

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