Laboratory Gloves: Do’s & Don’ts

Do’s

• Wear gloves when working in the lab
• Always remove gloves when leaving the lab
• Select glove material appropriate to the task, consider the hazard:
  • Biological, Chemical, Radioactive, Sharp, Extreme Temperatures
  • Consult a glove material guide if needed
• Check the glove for holes or damage prior to use
• Change gloves when contaminated or damaged
• Dispose of your used gloves in an appropriate waste container
  • Glove waste must be segregated on hazard
• Always wash your hands after removing gloves

Don’ts

• Do not reuse disposable gloves
  • Afterall, they’re disposable!
• Do not touch doors or door knobs
  • When going between labs, use the “One Glove” technique by holding your sample with your gloved hand while touching the door with your non-gloved hand
• Do not touch common equipment or surfaces with gloves, unless signage is present that indicates PPE is necessary for the surface
• Do not put gloved hands near unprotected flames or other high temperature sources
  • Most chemically resistant gloves, especially lightweight disposables, are combustible

Doffing

1. Grasp Outside Glove
2. Peel 1st Inside Out
3. Ball Up 1st Glove
4. Put Fingers Inside 2nd Glove
5. Peel 2nd Inside Out
6. Dispose Gloves
7. Wash Hands

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