# CLOTHS & CLEANING

EYS TRAINING

# **COLOURS**

### **TYPES**

# HOW THEY WORK

Cotton

Microfibre

Swiffer

# ECO ALTERNATIVE

### CARING FOR CLOTHS

# **COLOURS**

Each different coloured cloth corresponds to a specific area of cleaning

WHY? To prevent cross-contamination, for example, between bathroom and food areas



YELLOW General surface



RED
Sanitary fittings



BLUE Low risk areas



GREEN
Food and bar areas



WHITE
Site specific

# **TYPES**

There are various types of cleaning cloths.

- Each cloth type works in a different way, either in the amount it absorbs or how well it cleans. There is no specific cloth-type per surface.
- Cloths are made from either natural fibres or microfibre



NATURAL Cotton or Linen



SYNTHETIC Microfibre

They clean in different ways.

CLOTHS TRAINING

HOW THEY WORK Cotton cloths lift dirt using static energy.



When you pass a cotton cloth or rag over a surface it develops a static charge, and dust particles directly under the cloth are attracted.

**EXAMPLES** 

Flour sacks

T shirts

Muslin cloths

Towels

Nappy cloths

Linen tea towels

100% COTTON OR LINEN

These cloths are the most absorbent. The older the cloth, the more effective it is.

100% LINT FREE These are best; lint is the white fluffy bits that are left behind on the surface being cleaned.

Thicker cotton rags (nappy cloths, towels) are more absorbent and good for the drying and polishing part of the job. e.g. windows, wiping down surfaces.



MICROFIBRE

Microfibre cloths are made from polyester (PET plastic) and polyamide (a synthetic fibre). Both are plastics or, to use a fabric term, 'synthetic'.

When fused together these fibres are 100 times thinner than a human hair. Each fibre is split into mini-fibres which means that the cloth can collect more dirt.

- The cloths work by the action of the individual fibre grabbing the dirt and pulling it into the fibres.
- The dirt stays locked inside the fibres. When you wash the cloth in hot water the fibres uncurl and release the dirt.
- There are different types of microfibre cloths with different weaves and thicknesses

### DIFFERENT USES



POLISHING

Very thin-looking cloth with a close-knit finish, generally seamless. They do not like being wet, use only slightly damp



GLASS/MIRROR

A smooth-knit cloth with a seam



**GENERAL SURFACE** 

Your standard fluffy knit cloth with the loop threads



### METAL CLEANING

These cloths have raised sections, you think they will scratch but they don't



**SWIFFERS** 

The Swiffer is made of plastic and was invented by the Japanese in 1999.

- They use a form of electrostatic cleaning. Think of when you rub a balloon on a pullover then let it stick to a surface.
- There are different types of Swiffer. A Swiffer should not be the only piece of equipment you use, but when used correctly they can save time. Swiffer cloths cannot be washed or re-used.

# ECO ALTERNATIVE TO DRY & WET SWIFFER CLOTHS



### DRY

In place of the dry Swiffer cloths, wrap a blue seamless microfibre cloth around the Swiffer mop head.



### **WET**

Submerge a white floor microfibre cloth in a bucket of fresh water, wring well and wrap around Swiffer mop head

For both dry and wet alternatives, flip the cloth over to use both sides. Machine wash and re-use



Ready prepared



General cloths



Swiffer pole

# CARING FOR COTTON AND MICROFIBRE CLOTHS



- Never use fabric softener. Fabric softener coats fabrics with a fine film that will reduce your cloth's ability to attract and hold dust.
- Microfibre cloths can harden over time. The plastic fibres will aways harden after many washes.
- Cloths are your best friend and can save you time. While in use, rinse your cloths well and change them regularly. Wash frequently.



As your cloths collect dust, they can also collect other bits of debris that could scratch a surface