

How to Sterilize Cotton Swabs for a DNA Test

Sterilization is the process by which microorganisms are eliminated to create a completely pure environment. To ensure that cotton swabs are pure, sterilizing a cotton swab is a fairly simple procedure:

- 1- Wash your hands and forearms thoroughly under hot water, using an antimicrobial skin cleanser.



- 2- Cut out the swab heads and dispose them (better to use swabs with one cotton head). **Do not touch the cotton swab heads.**



- 3- Fill the swab cup with rubbing alcohol (isopropanol) to cover the swab heads up to 3 cm and soak for 3 minutes.



- 4- Remove the swabs, place upside down in a cup and dry in air in clean room for 10 minutes. **Do not touch the cotton swab heads.**



- 5- The sterile swabs are now ready for the DNA test.



Warning:

Make sure there are no flames close to the isopropyl alcohol upon pouring it, since alcohol is flammable.