

Quick Checks for Autoclaving

PPE -safety glasses -heat resistant gloves -lab coat -closed toe shoes

Preparing items for sterilization

- autoclavable pan -dust covers/lids -heat tape -loosen lids
- chemical indicator(s), if desired -leave space between all items

Preparing items for decontamination

- autoclavable pan -autoclavable and correct bag/container for contents
- label waste with lab name -1" opening left in top of bag
- chemical indicator **required:** place inside bag/container with long handled clip
- containers, liquid and solid, only filled 2/3 full

Cycle choices – refer to posted autoclave cycles chart

Loading autoclave

- secure loading rack -check drain for blockages -check gasket (seated/tears)
- make sure inner rack is pushed completely in -assure chamber clearance
- detach loading rack before closing autoclave door -complete user log

Autoclave operation

- check for any errors on screen or previous cycle tape -close door
- select cycle -start -check that user log is filled out completely

Unloading autoclave

- check screen/readout tape for any alarms or errors -open door
- secure loading rack -wear heat resistant gloves -verify chemical indicator
- carefully remove hot items, allowing to cool before transporting or disposing
- assure inner rack is completely pushed in, remove loading rack and close door
- keep tape printout if there were alarms/errors

Disposal of decontaminated waste

- allow to cool outside of the autoclave for about 30 minutes
- dispose of into autoclave waste box