

Hygiene: Fitting Rooms

February 2021

What is the problem?	What are the risks?
COVID-19 can be spread through contamination of clothing items and objects in the fitting room.	There are two key ways by which the COVID-19 infection can be spread in a fitting room: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Through contamination of clothing items tried on by multiple people; and2. Contamination of coat hangers, and doors, walls and furniture within the fitting rooms.
What is a solution to the problem?	
<p>Overall, the most effective way to minimise the risk of infection with COVID-19 in a retail setting is by ensuring physical distancing, encouraging customers and staff to maintain good hygiene, including regular hand washing, and undertaking appropriate cleaning and disinfecting.</p> <p>Additional steps that may help minimise the spread of infection in the fitting rooms in your store include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• if possible, rotating the staff member/s responsible for the fitting rooms and/or handling and returning clothes to the shelves• using only every second fitting room stall if there are multiple stalls in close proximity• requiring customers who are queuing to use the changerooms to keep 1.5 metres apart. Put signs around the fitting room area and create wall or floor markings to identify the 1.5 metre distance. Your staff could wear a badge as a visual reminder to each other and customers of the physical distancing requirements• limiting the number of customers allowed in the fitting room area at a time so that physical distancing requirements can be met• removing seating from in and around the fitting room• encouraging customers to have family and friends wait outside the fitting room rather than go in with them• putting in place hygiene steps before someone touches any clothing or footwear (for example providing hand sanitiser for customer use if possible and reminding customers to use it on entry or before they select goods to try on)• requiring customers to re-hang unwanted clothes on hangers themselves and return to designated racks to be returned to the shop floor the next morning, and• managing the flow of customers into and out of the fitting room to allow	

sufficient time for cleaning to take place on a regular basis. This includes cleaning and disinfecting frequent touch points such as door handles, hangers and hooks. Fitting room curtains should be laundered if there is a chance they may have been contaminated. If curtains are made from a material that cannot easily be cleaned, there must be sufficient time given for the curtains to dry and the germs to become inactive.

- erect prominent signage at changing rooms to explain the measures you have in place to limit the spread of COVID-19

If you consider that physical distancing or hygiene requirements are not able to be met in the changing rooms in your store, you should consider closing the changing rooms for the duration of the pandemic.

Source

The information in this solution has been sourced from Safe Work Australia, COVID-19 Information for workplaces, Retail, supermarkets and shopping centres, Hygiene (17 June 2020)

Further information

Safe Work Australia

[COVID-19 Information for workplaces, Retail, supermarkets and shopping centres, Hygiene](#)

Coronavirus.vic.gov.au

[Retail trade sector guidance](#)