

# Jet air dryers vs. paper towels



The science is clear: single-use paper towels are a more effective and hygienic way to dry your hands after washing.

## Jet air dryers



Using a jet air dryer dispersed **1,300 times** more germ particles than drying with paper towels.



The inner surfaces of jet air dryers can harbor up to **48 times more bacteria** than a toilet seat.

**52%**

Coliform bacteria were found on **52%** of jet air dryers tested.



Jet air dryers can increase the bacteria on fingers by up to **42%**.



When drying your hands with a jet air dryer, water droplets that could contain bacteria and germs are expelled into the air, **traveling as far as 6.5 feet** and lingering in the air for **up to 15 minutes**.

## Paper towels

**77%↓**

Drying your hands with a paper towel can **reduce bacteria on hands by up to 77%**.



The rubbing process of paper towels **physically removes bacteria** along with moisture.



Faced with a choice of drying methods, **90% of people chose paper towels** over jet air dryers in the restroom.



Paper towels are the **recommended hand-drying method** of the World Health Organization (WHO) "Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care."



Given the **strong preference for using paper towels**, hand hygiene adherence would possibly decrease if paper towels are not available in washrooms, according to a review article in the Mayo Clinic Proceedings.

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