

Glass and Plastic Washing Protocols

The following protocol is to be used for washing plastic and glass bottles, flasks, beakers, and graduated cylinders.

1. Check the dirty area by the sink for any dishes that need to be washed. This includes the cart in the lab (Room 236).
2. Place all of the dirty dishes into a plastic tub on a cart to transport over to the autoclave/washing room (Room 210). The dishwasher is the "Lancer Washer".
3. Load the glassware onto the washing racks. Be sure to pull off tape and take foil off before loading. Clear out the basket (under large rack) of debris before or after using dishwasher.

There are two racks, one with smaller pegs and one with larger pegs and larger spaces between pegs.

- The rack with smaller pegs holds smaller glassware (small graduated cylinders, flasks, bottles, etc.). It may be on the bench near the dishwasher if it's not inside the dishwasher. It goes on one of the top slots.
 - The rack with larger pegs holds large glassware (2/4/6 L flasks, 1 L or larger glass/plastic bottles, 500 mL or larger graduated cylinders, etc.). This rack will always remain in the dishwasher, and will be on bottom.
 - If doing a wash cycle with very large glassware (6 L flask), then you will only be able to use the large rack rather than both the small and large rack (otherwise, the large dishware will not fit).
4. Stir bars, spatulas, scoops, and bottle caps go into one of the metal wire pans on the top of the Lancer Washer. There will also be a metal wire basket in the lab to use. These metal pans fit in between the pegs.
 5. Turn on the power of the washer once all lab ware is loaded and the door is closed.
 6. Press "1" for normal use and press "4" for glassware with agar that needs to be removed. Then press "START" to initiate the wash cycle. **DON'T** press key symbol (lock button). Each cycle is about ~1.5 hr.

Note: Liquid detergent and acid rinse are pumping into the machine from bottles in the drawer at the bottom of the washer. When the bottles have 2 inches or less of fluid, make more:

- Liquid detergent: Pour most of 1 gallon of Super Q water (in Room 210, ask for assistance from a lab member) in the container, add 70 mL Contrad 70, and add the rest of the Super Q water (to avoid foaming).
 - Acid rinse: Fill acid clean jug with 3 liters of Super Q water, then add 2 liters of glacial acetic acid.
 - These materials are located in labeled drawers in Room 210.
 - Adding liquid detergent and acid is generally done by William.
7. When the screen says “Cooling Down”, this means the cycle is almost done. When the screen says “Cycle complete”, the cycle is done and the door is open.

Once washing is complete, prepare the necessary glassware for autoclaving:

8. Put aluminum foil completely over the mouths of glass flasks, graduated cylinders, beakers, etc. Wrap spatulas and scoops in aluminum foil if needed.
9. Place autoclave tape (Room 210) on all aluminum foil, caps of bottles, and somewhere on anything that will be autoclaved.