



The Do's & Don'ts of keeping it Clean!



How do you prevent the spread of germs as a face painter? It's a question I've been asked many times. The truth is, no matter how clean you keep your process, kids are way more likely to come down with a virus just waiting in line to have their face painted. No matter how hard you try to keep germs at bay, they will never be 100% under your control. You may paint a child who is carrying something contagious and doesn't know it yet. Kids will have allergies that parents may or may not tell you about or even know about themselves. These are the same risks that everyone takes when they choose to set a foot outside their door and interact with other humans. However, this doesn't mean we shouldn't try to stay as sanitary as possible! By following the suggestions here, you can help prevent the spread of germs to the best of your ability and put parents at ease by making a good effort.

DO look at your setup through the eyes of a parent. Would you allow someone to paint your own child with water/paint that looks like that? If not, take a pause for a quick cleaning.

DO clean your rinse water regularly. You may not be able to kill every germ in site all the time, but appearances go a LONG way to ease people's minds.

DO ask the parents to wipe their child's face if it is crusty.

DO Keep hand sanitizer and wipes on hand and use them often.

DO let kids keep whatever you use to hold their hair back...bobby pins are cheap!

DO Thoroughly clean all of your brushes and sponges after every gig and allow them to dry thoroughly before packing them away.

DO Allow your paints to dry before packing them up to avoid mold.

DO Wipe down any paint messes from around your kit, your mirror, your paint containers, and anything else that you or the kids touch whenever you have time, or at least between gigs.

DO avoid putting things in your own mouth or using your teeth to hold brushes.

DON'T add alcohol or bleach to your rinse water or your paints! Anything added to your water will be so diluted anyway that it will be totally ineffective for sanitizing purposes, and professional face paints already have antibacterial agents in them.

DON'T paint over open wounds. Choose a different spot or paint around it. This is as much for the other kids as the child themselves, as we don't want to agitate it further. Same goes with severe acne or any other kinds of open sores.

DON'T paint a visibly sick child. If the child has a runny nose or is coughing up phlegm, don't paint them. (or in the very least, don't double dip, set aside the brushes or sponges you used on them so they can be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized before your next gig, and sanitize everything around you before the next child)

DON'T use baby wipes on faces if you can help it. There are just way too many reports of these things causing reactions on kids' faces, so why chance your paints getting blamed for a reaction? There are plenty of better things out there, like makeup remover wipes.

DON'T use your brushes on lips. If you wish to paint lips, you can easily find Q-tips at your local drug store, or other disposable applicators for super cheap.

Cool Cleaning Tools!



Invisible Glove \$7.75

100 Cotton Swabs \$3.00



50 Disposable Sponges \$7.50



Brush cleaning jar & pad \$6.50



Better Way Brush Cleaner \$7.00



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