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- **Disinfecting** After cleaning your cistern, follow these instructions to thoroughly disinfect your cistern and household plumbing. 1. If the cistern is connected to any water treatment systems (e.g., water filter or softener), close valves to those units and follow manufacturer recommendations to disinfect those systems separately. 2. Add 3 cups (about 0.75 liters) of 5%-6% unscented liquid household bleach for every 100 gallons (about 380 liters) of water in the holding cistern. 3. If the cistern is connected to interior plumbing, open each faucet and run the water until you smell chlorine (bleach). 4. Turn off all faucets and allow the solution to remain in the cistern and plumbing for at least 12 hours. Do NOT drink, bathe, or cook with this water. 5. Drain all water from the cistern. 6. Refill the cistern with safe drinking water. 7. Open each faucet and run the water until you do not smell chlorine (bleach). 8. Add 1 tablespoon of 5%-6% unscented liquid household bleach for every 100 gallons of water in your cistern to prevent microbial growth



Cistern Size	¼ Tank	1/2 Tanks	¾ Tanks	Full Tanks
200 Gallons	1.5 cups	3 cups	4.5 cups	6 cups
450 Gallons	3.5 cups	7 cups	10.5 cups	13.5 cups
600 Gallons	4.5 cups	9 cups	13.5 cups	18 cups
1,000 Gallons	7.5 cups	15 cups	22.5 cups	30 cups