

The following is guidance based upon information gathered from the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, the **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** and other sources designed to assist in answering questions about carpooling and ridesharing during the current pandemic.

CARPOOLING / RIDESHARING:

Carpooling or ridesharing is the sharing of car journeys so that more than one person travels in a car and prevents the need for others to have to drive to a location themselves.

COVID-19 ISSUE:

The concern with carpooling, vanpooling or ridesharing during this time of coronavirus is that it results in people being in close proximity to each other, thus violating the social distancing recommended to prevent transmission and spread of COVID-19.

WHAT TO DO:

1. If you have symptoms, DON'T go out, drive, ride or go to work! Stay home and follow the recommended advice from medical personnel.
2. Stop all ridesharing / carpooling / vanpooling. Let people take their own vehicles.
3. If you have to rideshare / carpool / vanpool –
 - a. Social Distancing: Limit the number of people in the vehicle and increase distancing (i.e., driver in front, passenger in back caddie-corner) to 6'. Increase ventilation (i.e., roll down windows).
 - b. Barriers: If possible, consider installing see-through barriers between all people in the vehicle (some taxi's already have this between the driver and passengers, would need it between riders also).
 - c. PPE: If possible, wear protective equipment if available (i.e., gloves, mask).
 - d. Print and post information for all carpoolers / riders / vanpoolers. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>).
4. Cleaning: Clean the vehicle on all frequently touched surfaces (don't forget the door handle outside as well) before and after each ride.

Protection –

Take the following steps:

Precautions

1. **Suspected** If you've been exposed to someone confirmed with, suspected of, or has been exposed to COVID-19, contact your medical provider.
2. **Wash or Sanitize** your hands frequently and especially after touching frequently touched surfaces or having been in public.
3. **Avoid** touching high-touch surfaces. Use a tissue or sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something
4. **Avoid** touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
5. **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
6. **PPE** Use PPE (i.e., gloves, mask) if you have it, if it is provided to you, and if needed.

Disinfect –

- Plan to clean and disinfect the vehicle as often as possible. All frequently touched surfaces (i.e., armrests, windowsills, locks, window buttons, seatbelts, exterior and interior door handles, etc.).
- Pay close attention to surfaces that are touched often by riders.
- Use a disinfectant that is pre-approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use against novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and only use them once.

Cleaning Hands

1. **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. **Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.
4. **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
5. **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Using Sanitizer on Hands

Washing is Better Than Sanitizing.

1. **Apply** the gel product to the palm of one hand (read the label to learn the correct amount).
2. **Rub** your hands together.
3. **Rub** the gel over all the surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds.

SOURCES / RESOURCES:

- (WHO) https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/getting-workplace-ready-for-covid-19.pdf?sfvrsn=359a81e7_6
- (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html>
- (EPA) <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx>
- California Department of Labor <https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/>
- Washington Stated Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/NovelCoronavirusOutbreak2020/RideshareandTaxiDrivers>