

Stylist Article – July 2021 – Safe Sandal Season

It's summer and sandal season is in full swing. With California reopening, consumers are rushing to salons for a pedicure so their feet will look their best. Now is not the time to take your eyes off the California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology's health and safety regulations. In fact, it's a perfect time for a refresher.

- **Foot spas/basins:** Any foot spa/basin that holds water needs to be scrubbed and cleaned with liquid soap and water, even if you are using disposable liners. Whirlpool footspas, air-jet basins, pipe-less footspas, non-whirlpool foot basins, or tubs without disposable liners must be disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity used according to the manufacturer's instructions. In addition to after-client cleaning and disinfecting, whirlpool footspas, air-jet basins, and pipe-less footspas must be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day and at the end of each week according to specific procedures. Each cleaning must be recorded in a pedicure-cleaning log. For specific cleaning procedures for each foot spa type, review the Board's [regulations](#) (sections 980.1, 980.2, 980.3). You can also [watch demonstrations](#) on how to clean and disinfect a foot spa.
- **Tools:** No razor-edged tool or other device can be used to remove calluses. Callus removal is not within the scope of practice for any licensee of the Board – this service must be provided by a qualified medical professional. Tools that cannot be disinfected such as buffers, cotton pads, and emery boards must be thrown away immediately after one use.
- **Cleaning and Storage:** Tools that can be disinfected, such as nail clippers and metal cuticle pushers, must be cleaned with soap or detergent and water after all visible debris is removed and then completely immersed in an EPA-registered disinfectant. Containers must be large enough so that all non-electrical tools being disinfected are completely immersed in disinfectant solution. The disinfectant solution must remain covered at all times and be changed according to the manufacturer's instructions or whenever it is visibly cloudy or dirty. Tools that have been used on a client or soiled in any manner must be stored in a container clearly marked as "Soiled," "Dirty," or "Contaminated." Disinfected tools must be stored in a clean, covered place and labeled "Clean" or "Disinfected."

Check out the Board's newest [video](#) to in which the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology take you on a tour through a pedicure service as part of the Board's eighth annual #SafeSandalSeason. Learn about what manicurists are required to do and not do, and what consumers need to look for to stay safe in a salon. Also, be sure to visit the Board's [Safe Sandal Season webpage](#) for more resources.