American Airlines Announces Enhanced Cleaning Procedures and New Personal Protective Equipment for Customers

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FORT WORTH, Texas — American Airlines is updating and enhancing its cleaning procedures on board and will begin offering personal protective equipment to customers as it continues to prioritize customer and team member well-being in its response to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Face masks will be required for flight attendants as of May 1.

IMPROVEMENTS TO CLEANING PROCEDURES

Improvements to cleaning procedures will begin this week and will expand to every mainline and regional flight over time.

Beginning in early May, American will build on its comprehensive cleaning program by expanding the cleaning procedures already used during longer stops to every mainline flight. This cleaning will use a disinfectant approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and includes:

MORE THOROUGH CLEANING, MORE OFTEN
• In customer areas, tray tables, seatbelt buckles, armrests, window shades and seatback screens. It also includes wiping door and overhead bin handles.
• In team member areas, enhanced galley cleaning, jumpseats and crew rest seats. The new enhancements add cockpit surfaces as well.

These measures build on new and expanded cleaning procedures American added in early March, including additional touchpoints in the cabin, increased provisioning of hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes for crew members, and expanded fogging with an EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant in all public areas on aircraft. American is also expanding deeper cleanings and disinfection to all regional flights.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

In early May, American will start the process of distributing sanitizing wipes or gels and face masks to customers. This offering will expand to all flights as supplies and operational conditions allow.

“We are looking out for our customers’ well-being to give them peace of mind while they travel with us,” said Kurt Stache, Senior Vice President of Customer Experience. “We're moving quickly on these enhancements and we’ll continue to improve the travel experience for our customers and team members as we navigate these times together.”

FLIGHT ATTENDANT MASKS

Masks will be required for flight attendants during every mainline and regional flight beginning May 1. In addition, the airline has added a drawer in the galley on every mainline flight containing personal protective equipment, including masks for flight attendants and pilots, and other sanitizing items.

“Our team members on the frontline are truly going above and beyond during this time,” continued Stache. “Their commitment is nothing short of incredible and we will continue to work with them to make sure they have the equipment they need to feel safe.”

AMERICAN’S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

The latest changes build on American’s commitment to customer and team member safety. American’s cleaning
practices have always met or exceeded all guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). All American Airlines mainline aircraft and most of our regional aircraft are equipped with High-Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters. In addition, the cabin air in all of our aircraft is changed approximately 15 to 30 times per hour, or once every two to four minutes, similar to the standard for hospitals.

At the airport, American has expanded the frequency of cleaning the areas under its control including gate areas, ticket counters, passenger service counters, baggage service offices and team member rooms. American is also using stanchions to encourage social distancing at gates and ticket counters. Some computers and kiosks at ticket counters have been turned off to create more space between customers, and digital signs at gates promote health and safety while gate announcements discourage crowding at the gate. Also, American works closely with airport authorities and government agencies to carry out our own extensive protocol for cleaning customer and team member areas.

American urges customers not to travel when sick. To learn more about protecting yourself from COVID-19, visit the CDC website at [cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus).

About American Airlines Group
American Airlines offers customers 6,800 daily flights to more than 365 destinations in 61 countries from its hubs in Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas-Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix and Washington, D.C. With a shared purpose of caring for people on life’s journey, American’s 130,000 global team members serve more than 200 million customers annually. Since 2013, American has invested more than $28 billion in its product and people and now flies the youngest fleet among U.S. network carriers, equipped with industry-leading high-speed Wi-Fi, lie-flat seats, and more inflight entertainment and access to power. American also has enhanced food and beverage options in the air and on the ground in its world-class Admirals Club and Flagship lounges. American was recently named a Five Star Global Airline by the Airline Passenger Experience Association and Airline of the Year by Air Transport World. American is a founding member of oneworld®, whose members serve 1,100 destinations in 180 countries and territories. Shares of American Airlines Group Inc. trade on Nasdaq under the ticker symbol AAL and the company's stock is included in the S&P 500. Learn more about what's happening at American by visiting [news.aa.com](http://news.aa.com) and connect with American on Twitter [@AmericanAir](http://twitter.com/AmericanAir) and at [Facebook.com/AmericanAirlines](http://Facebook.com/AmericanAirlines).