



Dirty, Clean, Sterile Reprocessing Checklist

A quick self-check for safer workflow and stronger compliance



DIRTY

receiving,
sorting,
cleaning



CLEAN

inspection,
drying,
packaging



STERILE

sterilization,
cooling,
storage



DIRTY AREA CHECK



Do used instruments
enter here first?



Is this area clearly
separated from clean
and sterile spaces?



Is appropriate PPE
available and used?



Is cleaning completed
before instruments
move forward?



CLEAN AREA CHECK



Is there a dedicated
clean area for
inspection, drying, and
packaging?



Are cleaned
instruments protected
from contaminated
surfaces?



Is there a clear process
to prevent clean and
dirty items from
mixing?



STERILE AREA CHECK



Is there a designated
area for cooling, drying,
and sterile storage?



Are sterile packages
protected from
moisture, dust, and
contamination?



Are sterile items kept
separate from dirty
and clean workflows?



FINAL REFLECTION

Would an inspector be able to easily identify
your dirty, clean, and sterile areas?



Use this 5-minute self-check to review your reprocessing setup
and identify opportunities for improvement.



Stronger Workflow. Safer Patients. Confident Compliance.

Reprocessing is not just about sterilization.
It is about structure, flow, and separation: dirty, clean, sterile.

Developed by IPAC Consulting for dental teams.
This checklist is a practical self-assessment resource
and does not replace a formal IPAC audit or
regulatory guidance.