

Preparation and Sanitation

A clean and sanitary brewing area is crucial for brew day. Your beer does not have a good immune system and can be easily infected if you are not careful with sanitation. There are two steps to making sure everything is clean and sanitized. The first is the cleansing phase. Running equipment that can handle it through your dishwasher on the sanitary setting will clean and remove things from those items. As far as your fermenter goes, though, this is not possible. To clean your fermenter you have couple of options. I put about a half gallon of hot water in the bottom with some anti-bacterial dish soap. You must use a basic sponge (no abrasive side) or safe dishrag on your Speidel fermenter. DO NOT use a brush or an abrasive material as it will scratch your fermenter and then it will become harder to sanitize. Once you have scrubbed all surfaces inside the fermenter, then you must rinse thoroughly. You do not want any soap residue left behind, as it will affect the flavor of your beer. After every third brew, I also clean my equipment with PBW, but there will be another video for that. Once you have cleaned your equipment, it is time to move to phase two; prepping and sanitizing the brew area. You will sanitize the fermenter during the brew process as explained in that video, so don't fret about that right now. You are almost ready to brew. Just one more step, and the brewing will begin.

Preparation

- All equipment should been given initial Rinse/Clean where applicable.

- Bottling bucket should be filled with 5 gallons of clean water, mixed with 1 ounce of Star San (two 1/2 ounce doses), and mixed thoroughly. Add pint glass, strainer, Kettle spoon (may need to spray as well), regular spoon, and airlock attachment to this solution.
- Spray bottle should be mixed at a ratio of 1000ml of water to 2ml of Star San, or filled from the above bucket solution.
- Surfaces where any utensils will be stored/rested/put down should be sprayed with Star San, left to sit for one minute, and then wiped down. Cover with clean paper towels after wiping down.
- All utensils that will be used can sit in the bottling bucket with Star San solution for at least a minute, and then placed on your sanitized surface.
- You are now ready to proceed to your brewing.....Relax, and have a homebrew!!