


How long the virus survives on commonly used library, archive, and museum **surfaces**

REopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) is a research partnership between OCLC, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Battelle. It is conducting research on how long the COVID-19 virus survives on materials that are prevalent in libraries, archives, and museums. This document covers results related to surfaces of furnishings and exhibits.

MATERIAL	DAYS OF VIRUS SURVIVAL
Marble	2 days
Brass	2 days
Laminate	6 days
Glass	6 days
Powder-coated steel	6 days




* For more information about the items and materials tested, please visit oclc.org/realm-project.

How testing works


REALM is testing a wide variety of library, archive, and museum materials. Infectious virus is applied to materials and then measured at selected time points to capture the drop in total virus. Visit oclc.org/realm-project for project plans, test results, and new resources as they become available.

The “known unknowns”

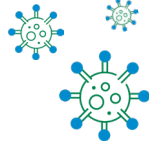
Knowledge about COVID-19 is still emerging from the scientific community. Keep the following “known unknowns” in mind when interpreting and applying REALM data.



1 **Unknown:** How much virus an infected person will leave on an object



2 **Unknown:** How much virus someone can pick up from an object



3 **Unknown:** How much virus is needed to cause infection

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