Food hygiene checklist

Hygiene is the practice or principles of cleanliness. It is important that you as a food handler prepare food in a safe and hygienic manner. Following the checklist below will help to prevent the spread of disease and ensure that illness is not the result for people who eat the food that you prepare.

Tick off each of the items in this checklist before you begin each production task.

Before you begin to cook	
Do not cook if you are sick!	
Tie back long hair	
Remove all jewellery – this includes rings, watches and bracelets	
Put on an apron or chef's outfit	
Wash hands – remembering to sing 'Happy Birthday' twice (this is the length of time it takes to adequately wash hands) and wash above your wrists and in between each finger	
Ensure fingernails are short, free of nail polish and clean	
Cover any cuts and sores	
Ensure that you have a clean tea towel and dish cloth	
Inspect your equipment to make sure that it is clean and dry	

When you are handling food

Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, then be sure to wash your hands again	
Do not pick or scratch your nose, scratch your face or touch your hair	
Use a tasting spoon when tasting food and do not reuse it	
Do not cook if you are sick, especially if you have diarrhoea or are vomiting	
Clean as you go - ensure that you clean dishes and dispose of rubbish in your bin or scrape bowl	

Which of these represents the way in which you work in the kitchen?



 Cambridge Recipes for Food Technology

 ISBN 978-1-107-68219-1
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