

Key Steps — Cleaning a wound

A visual demonstration of wound cleaning without narration. The checklist below is the standard sequence the demonstration follows.

- ☐ 1. Explain the procedure, provide privacy, and position the patient so the wound is well lit and accessible.
- ☐ 2. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves; set up a sterile field with cleaning solution, gauze and a dressing pack.
- ☐ 3. Remove the old dressing, noting its condition and any odour or discharge, and dispose of it as clinical waste.
- ☐ 4. Assess the wound: size, depth, tissue type, moisture, odour and the surrounding skin.
- ☐ 5. Cleanse the wound with the solution prescribed, working from the cleanest area toward the least clean and using each swab once only.
- ☐ 6. Irrigate or gently wipe away debris and excess fluid until the wound bed is clean.
- ☐ 7. Pat the surrounding skin dry without disturbing the wound bed.
- ☐ 8. Apply the new dressing selected for the wound's assessment.
- ☐ 9. Make the patient comfortable, dispose of waste and gloves, and perform hand hygiene.
- ☐ 10. Document the assessment, the cleansing and the dressing applied.

Watch the demonstration: medicalvideos.com/watch/wound-clean_1e3de6bcef48d3f5d8b4.html • More Wound Care & Dressings skills: medicalvideos.com/nursing/wound-care.html

Free by email: get new skills checklists and the week's best medical videos — subscribe at lists.medicalvideos.com

Steps summarise this demonstration for education and do not replace your institution's protocol, which always governs. Content reviewed by Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim, MD, PhD — physician-scientist. October 2026.