

Below is a screen shot from the Planned Parenthood website instructing youth in the use of “sex toys” in order to practice “safer sex.” The page can be accessed online [here](#) then click on “How Can I Have Safer Sex with My Sex Toys?”

**Oral Sex Safer?**

**» How Can I Have Safer Sex with My Sex Toys?**

Many people like to spice up sex play with sex toys — [dildos](#), [vibrators](#), [strap-ons](#), [butt plugs](#), and more. These toys need special care, too, when used alone or with partners. Unless they are kept clean between uses, they can build up bacteria, which can cause an infection. And if they are shared between partners, they can pass along sexually transmitted diseases.

The best way to keep sex toys clean and safe is to protect them with a latex condom. The condom should be changed whenever the toy is passed from partner to partner or from one body opening to another — mouth, anus, or vagina.

If you don't use condoms to keep a sex toy clean, it's important to clean it before and after every use. Sex toys are made of many different materials — silicone, jelly rubber, vinyl, stainless steel, acrylic, etc. They all may have to be cleaned different ways. Some toys can be soaked in water — and some cannot. Please read the instructions on the package carefully. Never use breakable household objects, like glass bottles, as sex toys.

Keeping your sex toys clean will help them last longer, and they'll give you pleasure instead of infections!