



Dry is what
matters?
Paper towels –
the best choice
for any washroom.

satino 

For **90%** of washroom users in Germany¹, **paper towels** are the preferred choice. Experts from renowned health organizations such as the WHO and the German Society for Hospital Hygiene also recommend their use instead of electric hand dryers or textile towel rolls. There are concrete reasons for this:

01

Hand hygiene

10 seconds² – this is the average amount of time washroom users spend drying their hands.

- ✓ Paper towels absorb 90% more moisture than electric hand dryers.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers are significantly less effective at removing residual moisture from hands.

Residual moisture between fingers can cause skin damage, the growth of germs, and their transmission.³

- ✓ Paper towels leave virtually no residual moisture.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers require more time to remove all moisture



02

Washroom efficiency

- ✓ Paper towels help avoid waiting times in washrooms, as dispensing takes an average of only 3 seconds.
- ✗ Using textile towel rolls or electric hand dryers takes more time.
- ✓ Blockages or paper jams are extremely rare.
- ✗ Textile towel rolls are more prone to blockages.
- ✓ Manual paper towel dispensers are maintenance-free and can be refilled effortlessly. A Satino dispenser with a PT1 XXL hygiene paper roll provides up to 469 drying cycles.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers require frequent and labor-intensive cleaning to ensure hygienic operation.

03

Surface hygiene and air hygiene

- ✓ Paper towels are versatile and can be used hygienically to operate taps or door handles. Drying with textile towel rolls or electric hand dryers limits this function.
- ✓ Each paper towel is touched only by the user and is disposed of completely, minimizing the risk of unintended contact with the dispenser.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers that require inserting hands are easily touched unintentionally.⁴
- ✗ Poor surface hygiene can lead to cross-contamination.
- ✓ The surface of a paper towel dispenser poses no hygiene concern.
- ✗ The surface of an electric hand dryer contains 1,000 times more germs.⁵
- ✓ Using paper towels instead of electric hand dryers reduces the spread of germs via aerosols by more than 96%.⁶
- ✗ Electric hand dryers contribute to the spread of germs through aerosols.

¹ WEPA_ipsos2022

² Suen, L. K. P., Lung, V. Y. T., Boost, M. V., Au-Yeung, C. H. & Siu, G. K. H. Microbiological evaluation of different hand drying methods for removing bacteria from washed hands. Scientific Reports 2019 9:1 9, 1-7 (2019).

³ Patrick, D. R., Findon, G. & Miller, T. E. Residual moisture determines the level of touch-contact-associated bacterial transfer following hand washing. Epidemiol Infect 119, 319-325 (1997).

⁴ European Tissue Symposium. Einmal mehr wurde bewiesen, dass Papierhandtücher im Vergleich zu Jet-Lufttrocknern die hygienischste Option für Waschräume sind.

⁵ Eurofins-Inlab Study - European Tissue Symposium.
<https://eurofaintissue.com/hygiene/studies/eurofins-inlab-study/>

⁶ Robert-Koch-Institut. Händehygiene in Einrichtungen des Gesundheitswesens. Empfehlungen der Kommission für Krankenhaushygiene und Infektionsprävention (KRINKO) beim Robert Koch-Institut (RKI). doi:10.1007/500103-016-2416-6.

04

Environmental friendliness

- ✓ With Satino, 100% recycled hand towel paper is available, made from recycled paper or alternatives like recycled cardboard.
- ✓ Used paper towels don't have to be wasted – they can become raw material for new paper towels thanks to WEPA's Circular Services, which are based on closed-loop systems that give used fibers new life.
- ✓ Manually operated paper towel dispensers do not contribute to the global e-waste problem.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers, by contrast, become electronic waste at the end of their service life.

05

Accessibility

- ✓ Paper towels can be dispensed intuitively, easily, and without physical effort.
- ✗ Operating textile towel rolls requires force.
- ✓ Paper towel dispensers can be mounted in a way that makes them easily accessible for all users.
- ✗ Upward-facing electric hand dryers are often inaccessible for children or people using wheelchairs.
- ✓ Paper towel dispensers are silent in use.
- ✗ Electric hand dryers, which can reach up to 115 dB, pose a risk to sensitive ears and contribute to stress.⁷

⁷ Keegan, N. L. Children who say hand dryers 'hurt my ears' are correct: A real-world study examining the loudness of automated hand dryers in public places. Paediatr Child Health 25, 216-221 (2020).



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Ask the expert!

Do your washrooms meet your guests' expectations?

What savings can you achieve with a holistic hygiene concept?

Have our experts carry out a no strings attached free washroom analysis for you!

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Leading sustainable hygiene