## Don't Barf off the Boat

# Your Vomit Matters

## Norovirus: the quick & dirty

**Symptoms** • nausea • vomiting • diarrhea • stomach pain • sometimes fever and headache

**No symptoms does not mean no virus.** You can still spread the virus after you recover.

One person's vomit can contain

## billions

of virus particles.

When you vomit in the ocean, the virus builds up in shellfish like oysters and clams; it can still cause infection when the oyster is eaten. Even if lightly cooked or steamed.

As few as **ten** particles can make you sick. Your vomit could infect 100s to 1000s of people.



Healthy people usually recover from norovirus in a few days. For children and the elderly the illness can be severe.



## But you have to puke somewhere.

#### Do it in...

a flushable toilet (lid down when you flush) or a container you can seal & throw out/disinfect with liquid bleach.

### Clean it up...

with disposable paper towels and seal them in a plastic bag to throw out

disinfect the affected area and all surrounding areas up to 6 feet beyond

use chlorine bleach concentrated at 1.5 cups liquid bleach/ 1 gallon of water

let it sit for at least 5 minutes

repeat if possible, then clean as usual.

Always **wash your hands** with **soap and water**, especially after using the bathroom or cleaning up vomit. Wash affected clothing and linens immediately.