Washing Gerber Equipment

**Stoppers:**

1. **ACID DETERIORATES STOPPERS!** Immediately after reading fat tests return Gerber bottles to the rack with their stoppers “up”. Remove stoppers, put them into wire basket immersed in luke-warm (110-120° F) detergent solution.
2. Move basket up and down repeatedly to remove fat and acid reaction mixture from stoppers. Drain off detergent solution. Immerse basket in 3 changes of clean cold water to remove detergent residue.
3. Shake basket to remove excess water off the stoppers. Dry stoppers rapidly; spreading them out on a wire grid is simple and practical.

**Bottles:**

1. After stoppers have been removed from bottles, clamp “quick lock” cover onto rack. Invert rack into non-corrosive (plastic, rubber, stainless steel) trough. Rack will stand in inverted position. Allow bottles to drain completely.
2. Fill container large enough to accommodate rack with luke-warm solution of mild alkaline detergent. Immerse rack completely to fill all bottles. Remove rack and invert, directing bottles’ contents to sewer. Shake rack gently to accelerate drainage.
3. Re-immersing rack in detergent solution. Invert rack again to empty bottle to sewer. Shake again to speed drainage. Two detergent rinsings will completely remove fat, acid and lead sulfate residues if bottles are washed immediately after use, before fat has hardened.
4. If fat was permitted to harden, make detergent solution hotter (135-140° F). After bottles are drained of acid contents, immerse rack to fill bottles with hot detergent solution; remove rack and let it stand for 15 minutes before emptying bottles. Refill with detergent solution and re-empty twice more before draining detergent solution completely each time).
5. Immerse rack to clean, luke-warm water to fill bottles. Invert rack and empty bottles to sewer. Shake rack gently to drain bottles completely. Refill bottles again with clean luke-warm water. Re-empty and re-drain. Store rack in inverted position to allow bottles to dry thoroughly.

**Pipets:**

1. Before milk or cream has dried on repeatedly fill and empty pipets with luke-warm solution of mild alkaline detergent.
2. The repeatedly fill and empty pipets with clean water. Arrange pipets vertically in rack to drain and dry completely.

**NOTE:** Glassware is clean only when it drains “smooth”, without accumulation of water droplets. Should even droplets be noted after final rinsing, more detergent solution soaking, and even brushing, may be required.