

How to Use your Inhaler and Spacer



To watch video, go to: <u>DenverHealth.org/Asthma</u>



- If it is on zero (0), the inhaler is out of medicine.
- Get a new one as soon as possible.

BEFORE you start, check the counter.

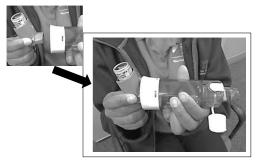
<u>Prime</u> the inhaler if needed (see boxes below).



1. Sit or stand up straight.



2. Take the cap off the spacer.



3. Connect the inhaler to the spacer.



4. Shake the inhaler and spacer straight up and down.
Do at least 5 hard shakes.



Breathe OUT all of the air in your lungs.



6. Close your lips around the mouthpiece.



Push on the top of the inhaler to make it spray medicine.



Breathe IN slowly and deeply over about 5 seconds.

If you hear a <u>whistle</u> sound, STOP. Breathe in more gently and slowly.



Hold your breath for 10 seconds.

If you need <u>another puff</u> of medicine:

- Take a short break (15-30 seconds)
- Repeat steps 4-9 (be sure to SHAKE the inhaler again!)

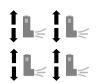


How to "PRIME" your inhaler

(get it ready to spray the medicine)

For NEW inhalers:

Before using, shake
AND spray the inhaler
4 times into the air.



For inhalers you have used:

- If you drop your inhaler
- If you haven't used it for 7 days.

Before using again, shake

AND spray the inhaler 2 times into the air.