



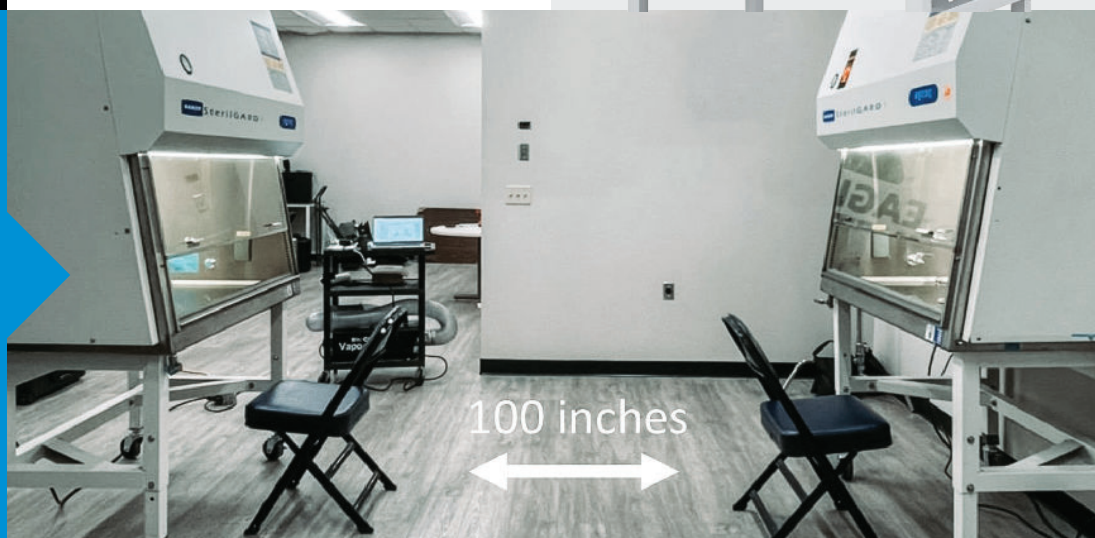
How much space is required around a BSC to maintain proper protection?



BSC MYTHBUSTERS WITH
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Baker Science Director



There are a lot of rules, 'guidelines', rumors, and myths for using a biosafety cabinet.



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If you have any BSC myths you want tested, send them to us!
We'll get some answers

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How much space is required around a biosafety cabinet to maintain proper protection?

One of the most important considerations is BSC placement, and unfortunately there is a lot of differing guidelines out there. Kara Held, Ph.D., from The Baker Company, challenged the layout criteria for biosafety cabinets within laboratories as dictated by several international standards. In her role as a BSC myth buster, she tested spacing between BSCs, how close to a door a BSC can be, how close two facing BSCs can be before compromising the cabinet containment properties, and more. Use this handy chart to help safely space your lab.

Parameter	NIH DRM	NSF Standard 49	Baker BSC Mythbusters
Distance to side wall	12" / 30 cm	6" / 15 cm	12" / 30 cm
Side-by-side BSCs	40" / 100 cm	6" / 15 cm	12" / 30 cm
Clearance in front of BSC	40" / 100 cm	40" / 100 cm	40" / 100 cm
Wall in front of BSC	80" / 200 cm	60" / 150 cm	60" / 150 cm
Facing BSCs	120" / 300 cm	100" / 250 cm	100" / 250 cm
Door - hinge side	40" / 100 cm	6" / 15 cm	6" / 15 cm
Door - swing side	60" / 150 cm	40" / 100 cm	>60" / >150 cm
Overhead clearance	14-18" / 35-45 cm	12" / 30 cm	12" / 30 cm



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