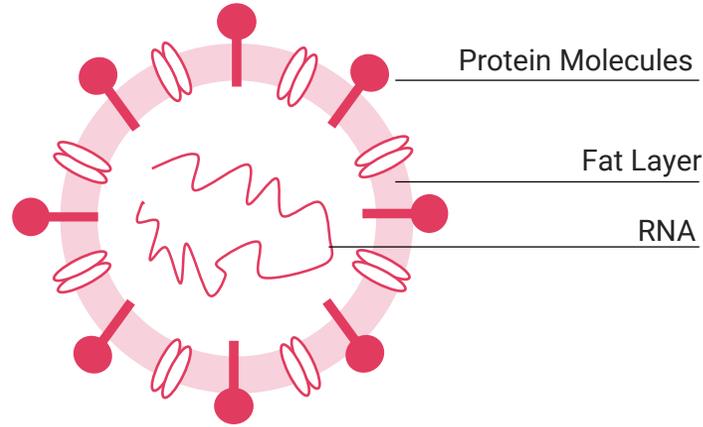


What does a virus like SARS-Cov-2 even look like?

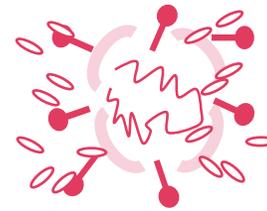


SARS-Cov-2, like other viruses, consists of **three essential parts**:

- **Fats** form a kind of envelope that holds the virus together - corona viruses are known as enveloped viruses.
- The cell envelope contains **protein molecules** that control the interaction of the virus with its environment. When entering host cells, they serve as a key.
- The RNA is the blueprint for the virus. It must be introduced into the host cell by the virus so that the production of other viruses can begin.

Unlike bacteria or fungi, viruses are not living organisms and do not consist of one or more living cells. This also means that some substances that render bacteria harmless are completely harmless to viruses - the most prominent example is antibiotics that are not effective against viruses.

Four ways to render the coronavirus harmless



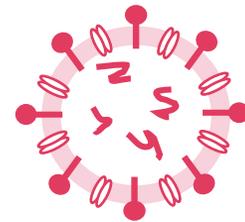
Destroy the fat cover of the virus

Fat-soluble substances such as **soap or detergents** attack the protective coating of the virus and dissolve it. Therefore, thorough hand washing is one of the most important hygiene measures against the virus. Independent of high temperatures.



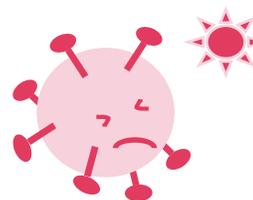
Denature proteins

Denaturing the proteins of the virus means changing the structure so that the virus becomes ineffective. Different proteins denature at different **temperatures** - some particularly sensitive proteins denature at 40° C, others only at over 90° C. The exact temperature at which the proteins of the SARS-Cov-2 virus denature is unknown, but recent scientific studies have shown that temperatures above 80 degrees Celsius may be the only temperature at which the SARS-Cov-2 proteins are effectively destroyed. Only temperatures above 80 degrees Celsius make the virus more difficult to control. Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)



Destroy the RNA of the virus

RNA and DNA as carriers of structural and genetic information are particularly sensitive to UV radiation (i.e. sunlight). For this reason, it is also suspected that viruses spread more slowly in the summer months because they are poorly protected against the destructive effect of UV radiation. The blueprint of a virus lying in the sun is completely destroyed within minutes - it can then no longer infect host cells in such a way that it can be reproduced. Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)



Drying out

Based on experience with other enveloped viruses, scientists assume that the corona virus cannot remain intact for long in a dry environment. Once the fluid inside the fat cover has dried up, the virus can no longer dock effectively to cells.