

Tekst 3

Counter offensive

Microwaving a sponge makes bad bacteria quite happy to stay

Stop. Drop the sponge and step away from the microwave.

That squishy cleaning tool is teeming with countless bacteria. Think that microwaving it will kill these tiny residents? It may nuke the weak ones in
5 your counter-swiping device, a recent study finds — but the strongest, smelliest and potentially pathogenic bacteria will survive. They will reproduce and spread to the vacant real estate left behind by the dead microbes.

10 In the end, your sponge will just be stinkier, and you may regret not just tossing it.



adapted from *The New York Times International Edition*, 2017