

Spa Care Tips

You can ensure many years of enjoyment and relaxation from your Hot Spring® spa with just a little bit of regular maintenance. Here are a few useful tips:

Out With The Old, In With The New

Remember to drain your spa water and refill according to the instructions outlined in your Owner's Manual to eliminate detergent residue from bathing suits and soap film which may have accumulated in the spa water.



For fresh, clean water right from the start, we recommend using the FreshStart®10,000 pre-filter when filling your spa. This filter attaches to an ordinary garden hose and removes water impurities such as rust, dirt, detergents and algae. It also injects a small dose of silver ions, which help keep the water clean. This pre-filter is part of the [EverFresh® water care system](#).

Clean Your Spa Filter Cartridges

Cleaning your filter cartridges is simple. As with any water filtration system, your spa filter cartridges can become clogged with mineral particles or calcification from hard water, which may result in reduced water flow. We

recommend that you clean your filter cartridges every month. Using a garden hose, spray each cartridge and rotate while spraying to thoroughly remove any debris lodged between the filter pleats. Use either [FreshWater™ Instant Filter Cleaner](#) or [FreshWater® Filter Cleaner](#) to keep your filters clean and in good operating condition. Keep in mind that your filters should be replaced every three years with genuine Watkins replacement filters.

The Easy Way To Keep Your Spa Sparkling

To clean [the spa shell](#), use a mild non-abrasive, non-sudsing cleaner and a soft rag or nylon scrubber to remove dirt build-up. Common baking soda can also be used for minor surface cleaning. After cleaning and drying your spa shell, apply [FreshWater Spa Shine](#) to keep your spa looking new. Also, the spa pillows can be removed and cleaned by following the instructions in your [Owner's Manual](#). The [hot tub vinyl cover](#) is best cleaned and conditioned by following this step-by-step method: first, remove the cover and spray it lightly with a garden hose to loosen any dirt or debris that might have accumulated. Using a mild soap solution (1 teaspoon dishwashing liquid with 2 gallons water) or baking soda, scrub the vinyl in a circular motion with a large sponge. Promptly rinse with a garden hose. Rinse the bottom of the cover (do not use soap), and wipe it clean with a dry rag. To condition the cover after cleaning, apply a thin film of Hot Spring Cover Shield™.

HELPFUL HINT: Showering without soap prior to entering the spa, and using only the rinse cycle when laundering your bathing suit, will help avoid detergent and soap residue in the spa water.

Accessories To Help Maintain Clean, Sparkling Water

Water it's the essential ingredient in your spa, and it's important to keep it fresh, clean and ready to enjoy. We now offer two accessories that make your water care routine easier, and keeps your spa water fresh and pristine.



Hot Spring MPS Chlorine-Free Oxidizer

Hot Spring MPS Chlorine-Free Oxidizer dissolves instantly and eliminates unwanted impurities which accumulate in your spa water. This chlorine-free oxidizer increases sanitizer efficiency, enhances water clarity and is compatible with bromine, chlorine and most alternative sanitizers. Hot Spring MPS Chlorine-Free Oxidizer is recommended for use with the [EverFresh® water care system](#) for the best quality water possible...fresh, safe, and free of odors and irritation.



Hot Spring Spa Vac

The Hot Spring Spa Vac cleans dirt, gravel, leaves and other debris without draining your spa. This self-contained, simple-to-use water vacuum requires no pumping, batteries or water hook-ups. The telescopic aluminum pole makes it easy to remove debris from hard-to-reach areas. Use it on your swimming pool steps and in fountains, too.

Winterizing Your Spa

Your Hot Spring spa has been designed for year-round use in any climate. Here are some steps you may want to take this time of year to ensure maximum energy efficiency. If you live in an area which has freezing temperatures, you should purchase a Winter Blanket which is available at your local Hot Spring spa dealer. This vinyl-covered, fiberglass insulated blanket, which installs inside the equipment compartment door, provides an additional precaution against partial freezing of some of the components and maximizes the spa's energy efficiency.

Also, make sure your cover is at peak performance level. Check for signs of wear and tear—make sure the seal is still tight and intact so heat doesn't escape. If you see signs of sagging, fading or cracking, it's time for a replacement. Be sure to remove snow from the spa cover before large amounts accumulate. Condensation might occur around the cover locks which could create ice build up to remove, splash with warm water; don't try to pry the ice off.

If you are going away for a few days during the winter months, remember these tips:

1. Before you go, adjust the pH according to the [Owner's Manual](#).
2. Sanitize the water with super chlorination or the new Hot Spring MPS Chlorine-Free Oxidizer according to instructions.
3. Lock down the cover to prevent access.
4. Lock the light and jets feature on the control panel (on 1998 models).
5. Upon your return, balance the pH and sanitize the water prior to using.

If you are planning to be away from home a week or longer, call your local dealer for more tips on winterizing your spa, or refer to the [Owner's Manual](#) for additional instructions.

Sanitizer is extremely important for killing algae, bacteria and other unwanted impurities in your spa water. While it is important to maintain the sanitizer levels, you do not want too much, because it can irritate your skin, lungs and eyes.

Hot Spring recommends only the following sanitizers:

1. EverFresh Water Care System with Hot Spring MPS Chlorine-Free Oxidizer
2. Sodium Dichlor (chlorine)
3. Granular bromine
4. FreshWater® Biguanide Water Care or Baqua Spa™ For 1998 to current spa models only
5. AutoFresh® Water Care System

DO NOT use tri-chlor chlorine, any type of compressed bromine or chlorine, acid or any type of sanitizer which is not recommended above. If in doubt, please contact our Customer Service Department or your local Hot Spring spa dealer.

For more information on the care and cleaning of your spa, refer to your [Owner's Manual](#). Call us if you have any special questions. We're here to help make your spa maintenance as easy as possible. If you have technical or customer service questions, please contact us or call (814) 833-6167.