

# AquaSParkle Spa Guide

Spa Treatment Chemicals



AquaSParkle - from the spa people who understand

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ON...

- Starting up
- Circulation and filtration
  - Water testing
- Chemical water treatment
  - Draining and refilling
- Working out Spa volumes
- Safety and problem solving chart

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# Starter or Shock Dosing

## AFTER THE SPA HAS BEEN ERECTED

After filling, do not turn on the blower systems until you have shock dosed your Spa to a minimum 50 ppm chlorine and circulated for an hour (or 20 ppm for 2 hours). Dose quick dissolving sanitisers - Spa Stabilised Chlorine Granules or Spa Bromine Infused Granules, whilst the pump (only) is running and this procedure ensures that any water remaining in the Spa (e.g. from factory wet tests) is immediately treated and bacteria free. Begin bathing only when chlorine levels fall back to the normal range.

DOSE	PRE-TREATMENT TIME	SPA VOLUME
100 gram	1 hour	220 gallons (1,000 litre)
40 gram	2 hours	220 gallons (1,000 litre)

See page 4 for typical Spa volumes.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF CIRCULATION AND FILTRATION

Most Spa's include a pump, blower and cartridge filter chamber as standard. It is a combination of circulating the water through the cartridge, to collect suspended particles and grease, together with good chemical water treatment, that helps you maintain clear, clean and healthy water.

It is advised to run your Spa's circulation every day, as outlined in your Spa owner's booklet. Some Spa's run on a timer, which automatically ensures circulation, in which case just ensure the system is in good working order.

Note, when the cartridge filter is dirty, filter efficiency and circulation are impaired often leading to poor water quality. Typically, cartridges will need cleaning every 4 - 6 weeks, but more regularly when usage or contamination (e.g. grass in tub) is high.

## WATER TESTING AND IDEAL POOL LEVELS

Using Blue Horizons 3 way dip tests you are able to quickly and accurately assess your Spa's water conditions and make adjustments to chemical levels by adding appropriate quantities where necessary. Test daily whether the Spa is in use or not, to keep on top of requirements as warm water will need regular sanitisation.

TEST	IDEAL READING	
Free Chlorine/Bromine	3 - 5 ppm *	* ppm = parts per million
pH	7.2 - 7.6	* total alkalinity should be learned in time only after mastering chlorine and pH first
Total Alkalinity	80 - 150 ppm *	

When using Blue Horizons dip tests follow the instructions on the bottle for best results being observant of the optimal reading times and always holding strips level (to avoid indicator pad colours mixing).



By regular testing of Spa water you will soon learn how various activities like refilling, topping up, adding chemicals and general usage can affect various test readings.



# Chemical Water Treatments

## Foam Control

Foam appearing on the water surface can be unsightly. Due to warmer Spa water the build up of foaming agents from body oils, cosmetics etc, can sometimes exceed the Spa filter cartridge's ability to remove them. In such cases an easy remedy is available using Spa FoamAway, dosed as below for effective foam control.

Initial dose	100ml	220 gallons (1,000 litres)
Weekly dose	50ml	220 gallons (1,000 litres)

## Cleaning and Maintenance

Periodic cleaning of waterline grease using Spa surface cleaner will not only help your Spa look good but will also optimise the use of your chemicals and help to reduce the time in which your Spa's filter cartridge becomes dirty.

Use Spa cleaning preparations since household cleaners often contain detergents that cause foam.

## Draining, refilling and cleaning cartridges

Over time water absorbs minerals, chemicals and other soluble materials that lead to an increase in Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in Spa's water. This, in turn, reduces chemical efficiencies, can create dull water and makes Spa's hard to maintain correctly. To avoid this as a guide drain and refill every 4 - 6 weeks or estimate by the:-

Spa litres ÷ daily bathers ÷ 12 = days before draining/refilling  
e.g. 1,000 litres ÷ 2 daily bathers ÷ 12 = 41 days

When cleaning dirty cartridges on draining down it is prudent to always have a spare cartridge to readily reload into your Spa's cartridge chamber. This allows thorough cleaning of the dirty cartridge which can be cleaned well with a special cleaning solution in a bucket. Use Immerse cartridge cleaner or Spa Cartridge Cleaner Liquid to produce a blended cleaning agent, designed specifically for this purpose.

## Working out Spa volumes

TYPICAL SPA SIZE	VOLUMES (g & Ltrs)
2/4 person round	175-264 gallons (800-1,200 ltrs)
4/6 person square	264-330 gallons (1,200-1,500 ltrs)



## Safety Tips

### GENERAL

- Do not allow water temperatures to exceed 40 °C (lower for children)
- Do not leave non swimmers / children unattended
- Do not overload the Spa
- Do not use electrical appliances near water
- Use plastic and not glass around the Spa
- Do not drink alcoholic beverages before or during use of Spa's
- If you are pregnant, have high blood pressure or cardiovascular conditions then consult your doctor before using Spa's
- When changing (dirty) filter cartridges, wear gloves

### CHEMICAL HANDLING

- Read instructions thoroughly on each product/box before use
- When pre dissolving chemicals always add chemicals to water and not vice versa
- Never mix different chemicals in concentrated forms including these kit products but also with other products like bleach or weedkillers – a dangerous reaction may occur
- Always pre dissolve chemicals in a clean, plastic container in a well ventilated area
- Avoid spillages but in event of spillage clean up using clean receptacles and dispose in the Spa. Flush cleaned spill areas with water
- Never use unlabelled chemicals
- Wash hands after handling Spa chemicals

### STORING CHEMICALS

- Store chemicals well away from children and pets
- Store in a secure, cool and dry place

# Problem Solving Chart

<b>SYMPTOM</b>	<b>CAUSE</b>	<b>REMEDY</b>
Green/cloudy water	Algae	Shock dose with double dose chlorine or consider if time to drain/refill
Too much chlorine	Overdose	Allow time to naturally dissipate or buy a chlorine reducer
pH hard to control	Alkalinity low	Seek advice on how to raise total alkalinity
Cannot maintain chlorine levels	Chlorine demand of water too high at start up, after holidays or due to excess contamination or neglect	Shock dose with double dose chlorine Repeat after 24 hours if necessary
Foaming water	Oils/detergents present	Use FoamAway
Cloudy water	Poor chemical controls or Inadequate filtration	Clean cartridges or consider if time to drain and refill. Retest water and add chemicals, if necessary
Rough Spa sides/edges	Scale formation	Ensure pH levels are correct and if scale persists use spa ScaleAway to stop calcium precipitating out of water
No colour change on test strip dip test	Too high chlorine leading to bleaching of indicator pads (over 15ppm chlorine)	Check expiry date on test strips. Wait for chlorine level to drop and re-test
Test results vary	Air bubbles can increase pH and reduce alkalinity temporarily	Test when system turned 'off' for true results



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