



# AN EASY GUIDE TO HOT TUB CHEMICALS

Your sanitiser is: .....



## AN EASY GUIDE TO HOT TUB CHEMICALS

**YOU WILL ONLY USE EITHER CHLORINE OR BROMINE – NOT BOTH**

This document is a guide only and has been created to give you the very basics of chemical management and we recommend that you always refer to your chemical manufacturers specific instructions.

### THE ABSOLUTE BASICS ARE

- KEEP CHLORINE or BROMINE LEVEL
- BALANCE pH
- SHOCK DOSE
- CLEAN FILTERS

We have created this guide to communicate the very basics of hot tub water management so that you have a basic understanding as a new hot tub owner some terms have been simplified to make this easy to understand.

### BASIC CHEMICAL DOSING RULES:

- Always add chemicals to water and not water to chemicals
- It is best to pre-dissolve any powered or granular chemical in water in a clean container
- It is always best to add a little amount of chemical at a time and then add more after re-testing, rather than overdosing
- Keep chemicals out of reach of children and in a dry environment

Your chemical pack contains everything you should need to achieve safe, clean spa water.  
Additional maintenance chemicals are available.



### SANITATION & TESTING:

#### 4 way test strips:

Reads – Sanitiser (Chlorine or Bromine) / pH - Alkalinity. Immerse the strip in the water horizontally so the colours don't run into each other, remove immediately. Leave for 10 seconds before reading. It is always best to test your tub before use and vital that you carry out a test at least once or twice a week even if not using the hot tub as part of your routine. The more often you test and adjust as required the less likely you are to experience problems with water quality. As a new hot tub owner, we would recommend testing daily as this will demonstrate to you what changes can occur in quite a short amount of time.



4 Way Test Strips

#### Chlorine or Bromine Granules:

This is your sanitiser. Sanitiser molecules in the water will attach themselves to bacteria and neutralise them.

You need to administer chlorine or Bromine granules regularly to achieve the everyday level as shown on the test strips. Regular testing and adjusting will keep your hot tub chemicals easier to balance. When adding chlorine, we would recommend adding small amounts until the desired level is reached. Using the hot tub will deplete the chlorine in the hot tub so regular testing will ensure you are keeping the levels correct.



Stabilised Chlorine Granules



Bromine Granules

## Shock treating the water:

Shock treating should be carried out once a week or after heavy use. Shock treating removes any potential bacteria from the water and allows the chlorine or bromine levels to be kept stable. Shock dosing your hot tub should be done in periods when the spa is not going to be used. We would recommend not using the hot tub directly after shock dosing. Shock dosing will help to keep your water clean and clear. Where possible leave the hot tub cover open for an hour after shocking.



**Granular (Chlorine) Shock**



**Non Chlorine Shock**



**Spa Revive Shock with Clarifiers**

## Water Balance:

You should balance the water in your spa so that your Ph. reading is between 7.2 and 7.6 as your sanitiser will work more effectively.

If the pH. is too high, your water is too alkaline, this is not dangerous, but the water can feel slimy and can lead to slight skin & eye irritation.

If the pH. is too low, then your spa water is too acidic and again can lead to skin & eye irritation.

If your water pH is not balanced, then your sanitiser can be less effective at killing bacteria.



**pH Increaser**



**pH Reducer**



**Alkalinity Increaser**

## To Increase the Ph.

Use pH Plus/Soda Ash. Dissolve in water and dose around the perimeter of the hot tub.

## To Decrease the Ph.

Use pH Minus/Dry Acid. Dissolve in water and dose around the perimeter of the hot tub.

## To Increase Alkalinity.

There is a product available called TA plus (Total Alkalinity) that will increase Alkalinity.

## To Decrease Alkalinity.

Use Dry Acid/pH Minus. Dissolve in water and dose in the centre of the hot tub.

We recommend that you focus initially on balancing the sanitiser and pH levels as these are most important to maintain healthy water as you are starting out with your new hot tub.

**An easy way to remember where to administer chemicals:**

pH = Perimeter

Alkalinity = Axis

## Filter Cleaner:

Your filters should be rinsed every week or at least every fortnight. Every 4-6 weeks (dependent on usage) the filters should be soaked in a cleaning solution to give them a deep clean and to remove grease etc. After using any filter cleaner it is vital to properly rinse your filters thoroughly and when storing filters they should be kept where they can dry properly and never left damp.

Use any filter cleaner as directed.



**Cartridge Cleaner**



**Instant Filter Cleaner Spray**

## IN SUMMARY – THE VERY BASICS ARE

- To start with test your water daily while you get to grips with the chemicals
- Add chlorine or bromine in small levels as required, always keeping a residual level
- Adjust up or down the pH as required, little and often is better than overdosing
- Shock dose your tub weekly or after heavy usage
- Check filter weekly and clean as required

### REMEMBER

**Pre dissolve granules before adding to hot tub water.**

In addition to the supplied chemicals there are available maintenance chemicals that can assist in the ongoing maintenance of your hot tub. All of these chemicals are available in store.

### MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS:

#### Anti-scale:

Many areas locally have very hard water supplies. If left untreated scale (calcium) will form on heater elements, jets and the spa surface and can cause many problems. Dosing with Anti-scale as per the instructions will keep the calcium active in the water and allow the filters to pick it up. Our recommendation is to dose with Anti Scale WEEKLY.



**Scale Away**

#### Water Clarifier:

Sometimes you may have cloudy water that when tested shows all the chemicals are balanced etc. Tiny particles that are too small for the filters to pick up can cause this. Water clarifier binds these particles together and the filters can then remove them from the water. We always believe that prevention is better than cure and dose our water each week with water clarifier as part of the weekly routine. As a quick fix you can spray clarifier on the filters after cleaning and run the filter for a couple of hours and this will help restore sparkling water.



**Spa Sparkle**

#### Anti-Foam:

No matter how much you shower before using your spa, tiny soap particles get trapped on the body and in particular shampoo is left in hair and soap suds remain on bathing costumes. This will end up in your spa water and with the agitation caused by the jets will cause foaming. There is not anything wrong with this, it just does not look nice. Anti-foam will not completely remove these contaminants, but it will dissipate the foam from the water temporarily.



**Foam Away**

#### Surface Cleaner:

Does exactly what it says on the bottle, for removing oil and grease from around the waterline. It can also be used all over the spa shell surface when the water has been drained down. See the guidance on the container and use as directed. **DO NOT USE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS AS THIS WILL ADD UNWANTED CONTAMINATES TO THE SPA.**



**Surface Cleaner**

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