

Common Hot Tub Water Problems

Here are some of the typical problems you may experience with your hot tub water - the cause and solutions.

Problem	Cause	Solution
Calcium Deposits on Shell Surface	Hard Water. pH, total alkalinity not in balance	Clean with a non-abrasive Hot Tub surface cleaner Test water, adjust pH as needed Add a stain and scale control chemical
Cloudy Water	pH, total alkalinity not in balance Damaged or dirty filter Addition of incompatible chemicals Low chlorine level Buildup of oils, soap, foreign matter	Add a water clarifier. Then circulate for a minimum of 30 minutes. After water has cleared, clean filter cartridge with a filter cleaner or replace if necessary. Test chlorine and pH levels, adjust if necessary. Change water.
Colored Water	Copper or iron metals in Hot Tub due to water supply or corrosion of heater. Total alkalinity, pH are low	Add an iron/stain and scale remover. Test pH, adjust if necessary.
Eye and Skin Irritation	pH, total alkalinity not in balance Inadequate chlorine level. Addition of incompatible chemicals.	Test pH and chlorine levels, adjust if necessary
Excessive Foam	pH, total alkalinity not in balance Low calcium hardness Inadequate oxidation Addition of incompatible chemicals Buildup of body oils and/or contaminants	Add an anti-foam agent Add shock Adjust chlorine level Test pH, adjust if necessary Take water sample to dealer to check total alkalinity and calcium hardness Change water
Odor	Inadequate ventilation Addition of incompatible chemicals Insufficient oxidation Inadequate cleaning of cover Low pH Chemical overdose	Test pH and chlorine levels, adjust if necessary Clean with non-abrasive Hot Tub surface cleaner Clean underside of the cover with a cover cleaner or mild soap and warm water
Waterline Deposits & Staining	Buildup of body oils, impurities Use of clarifying agents with ozone Hard water (minerals in water)	Test pH and chlorine levels, adjust if necessary Clean with a non-abrasive Hot Tub surface cleaner Add a scale/stain control chemical Take water sample to your dealer