Cryptosporidium / Giardia / Cyst

Filters designed to remove Crypto (any of the four massages below on a package label should be able to remove Crypto):

- Reverse osmosis (with or without NSF 53 or NSF 58 Labeling)
- **Absolute** pore size of 1 micron or smaller (with or without NSF 53 or NSF 58 Labeling)
- Tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 or NSF/ANSI Standard 58 for cyst removal
- Tested and certified to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 or NSF/ANSI Standard 58 for cyst reduction

Filters labeled only with these words may NOT be designed to remove Crypto:

- Nominal pore size of 1 micron or smaller
- One micron filter
- Effective against Giardia
- Effective against parasites
- Carbon filter
- Water purifier
- EPA approved (**Caution:** EPA does not resister filters based on their ability to remove Cryptosporidium)
- EPA registered (**Caution**: EPA does not register filters based on their ability to remove Cryptosporidium)
- Activated Carbon
- Removes Clorine
- Ultraviolet light
- Pentiodide resins
- Water softener
- Chlorinated

Note: Filters collect germs from water, so someone who is not immunocompromised should change the filter cartridges. Anyone changing the cartridges should wear gloves and wash hands afterwards. Filters may not remove Cryptosporidium **as well as boiling does** because even good grands of filters may sometimes have manufacturing flaws that allow small numbers of Cryptosporidium to get in past the filter. Selection of certified filters provides additional assurance again such flaws. Also, poor filter maintenance or failure to replace the filter cartridges as recommended by the manufacturer can cause a filter to fail.

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Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotice infectious Diseases (NCEZID). Division of Foodborne, waterborne, and Environmental Diseases.