

# ***Your New Cedar Tub Instructions***

A Step by Step Guide to Ensure You Get The Most Out of Your Hot Tub

# Start Up Guide

The first time you fill your tub with water there will be many small leaks, mostly small drops, some slightly faster. Over the first 24 hours these leaks will slow down a lot. After the first filling, it is quite possible that the tub can even empty completely after 24 hours. The second time you fill your tub, the leaking will slow down considerably. After 24 hours it will most likely lose approx 8 inches or so of water. The small leaks should disappear over the next few days, and have normally stopped within a week. If bad leaking is still occurring after approx 2 weeks then some investigation into what is causing the leaks may be required. All the pipework and fittings need to be checked. Hose clips may need to be tightened. Fittings may need tightening. If there are many leaks on the jet tubing, then the tub will need to be drained down to a level below where the problem pipe is. The point where the leak is then needs gluing with as much solvent weld that can be pasted onto it. The solvent weld needs to be left for 24 hours before filling your tub with water again. The first time you fill up your tub, there will be a lot of Tannin leaching out of the wood into the water. This stains the water brown - it is completely harmless. You will have to empty your tub after approx 1 week. The next time you fill up your tub, you may be able to keep the water for approx 2 weeks before the water goes brown.

This excessive tannin will disappear slowly over time, until approx 6 months of use. You will be able to keep the water for 2-3 months (as long as your tub has a filter and suitable chemical dosage)

## Water Treatment

In order to keep the water in your tub biologically clean, the use of sanitary chemicals is necessary. The use of Chlorine or Bromine is not recommended as these deteriorate the wood and are quite ineffective at keeping the water sanitary due to the high temperature of the water. We highly recommend the use of Hydrogen Peroxide. The required strength is 35%. The volume to be added can be calculated for each tub as 160ml per 1000 litres of water. It requires dosing once every 5 days ideally.

Hydrogen Peroxide is available through us at the price of £49 for 5 litres including delivery.

Rubber gloves need to be worn when handling Hydrogen Peroxide. It needs to be kept in a dark cupboard.

## Electric Heated Tubs

The temperature gauge on the heater needs to be set at a temperature. On a full height tub approx 5 degrees lower than the actual temperature required. On a Stubby Tub approx 3 degrees lower. This is due to the temperature of the water at the bottom of the tub being slightly colder than that at the top. If any changes are made to the heater, then ensure that it is done in small increments of approx 1-2 degrees. The tub may take approx 1 hour for any change to take effect, as it is such a large volume of water.

To cool the water down quicker use your hose pipe to put a few litres of cold water in.. Don't leave it in the tub for too long, the tub quickly cools down, and all that cold water will be lying at the bottom of your tub!

Once per month the filter will need to be cleaned out. This is to ensure that there is a good rate of flow through the heating system. This is due to the flow switch that is on the heater. When the

flow slows down too much, either through blocked filter or filter basket, the flow switch will stop responding and turn the heater off.

To clean out the filter basket, leave the filter turned on, unscrew the transparent circular cap. Take out the basket inside, turn it upside down gently tap it on the ground to dislodge the solids that have been caught in there. If need be hose the basket from the outside.

To clean the filter medium (small glass or resin beads) first turn off the filter at the plug. Unscrew the cap that says 'waste' next to it. Stand to the pump side of the filter. Push down gently on the filter handle and turn it to backwash. Plug the filter in for approx 20 seconds. Water will come gushing out of the waste. Turn off the filter., push the handle and turn to rinse. Turn on the filter for approx 10 seconds. After unplugging the filter, turn the handle to 'Filtration' and turn it back on. Screw the cap back onto the Waste outlet. It is really important that you turn the filter off before attempting to move the filter handle. Seals can easily break if you do not do this.

## **Wood Treatment**

If left untreated, the wood will go silver grey after approx 12 months. It is personal preference if you leave the wood to age naturally or decide to treat the wood with an oil or stain.

Cedar takes most oils and stains. Danish and Teak oils both work well. Oil every part of the tub apart from the inside. The top rim can be oiled as well. The best treatment is Owatrol Textrol available online (ebay etc) and instructions provided with the product should be adhered to.

## **General Safety**

It is not recommended to stay in your tub for longer than periods of 20 minutes. This is to ensure that you do not raise your body temperature by too much.

Pregnant women are not advised to use the tub at all.

Consumption of alcohol whilst enjoying your hot tub needs to be in moderation. Spells of dizziness can occur from the effects of alcohol and hot water. After extended periods in your tub, it is not uncommon to feel a little dizziness. Only the effect is exaggerated with alcohol.

Turning the temperature above 40°C is not advised as this can significantly raise your body temperature. If you have any open wounds then it is not advisable to go in the hot tub.

# Problem Solving

## *The water is brown*

This is normal, it will reduce significantly after 1 week, and slowly disappear over the 1st year.

## *The tub is leaking*

This is normal at first. It takes approx 2 weeks for the tub to properly swell and stop all of the drips.

## *The water is cold*

This is normally a sign that the filter is blocked. Perform a 'Backwash' as described in the previous section. If this doesn't work please get in touch with us.

## *Can I leave the tub empty?*

The tub should never be left completely empty for more than a couple of days. If to be left for a long time leave 3 inches of water at the bottom and leave the lid on to keep the whole tub moist.

## *The water is smelly*

Add a dose of Hydrogen Peroxide . If after 2 hours there was little difference add an extra half dose if there is still little difference after another 2 hours it may be time to change the water.

## *How do I clean my tub?*

If your tub is in need of a clean, empty out the water. Using some disinfectant and a soft sponge clean out the tub gently. Gently hose all around the inside of the tub. Do not pressure wash the tub, it strips the fibres of the wood.

## *I've got a rash*

It is quite common to have a red blotchy skin condition soon after getting out of the tub. It is more common for children and 1st time users to get it. It is called hot tub rash and is just caused by being in contact with hot water for an extended period of time.