

Hot Spas Weekly Hot Tub Maintenance Guide

Clean • Safe • Relaxing Water, Every Week

Owning a hot tub should feel effortless—not stressful. Following this simple weekly routine will keep your spa water crystal clear, protect your equipment, and ensure every soak is safe and enjoyable.

Required Weekly Maintenance Materials

Keep these items on hand:

- Testing & Cleaning
- Spa test strips (chlorine or bromine specific)
- Spa surface cleaner (non-foaming)
- Clean microfiber cloth or sponge
- Spa shock (chlorine or non-chlorine)
- Filter cleaner
- Garden hose
- Chemicals (as needed)
- Chlorine or Bromine
- pH increaser (Soda Ash)
- pH decreaser (Dry Acid)
- Alkalinity increaser
- Calcium hardness increaser
- Defoamer
- Metal sequestrant (optional but recommended)

Step 1: Test Your Water (2–3 Minutes)

Test your water 2–3 times per week, and always:

- After heavy use
- After adding water
- After shocking

How to Test

- Dip test strip into spa water (12–18 inches deep)
- Hold level for 10–15 seconds
- Compare colors to bottle chart

Proper Chemical Levels at a Glance

CHEMICAL	IDEAL RANGE
Chlorine	3-5 ppm
Bromine	4-6 ppm
pH	7.2 - 7.8 ppm
Total Alkalinity	80 - 120 ppm
Calcium Hardness	150 - 250 ppm
Phosphates	As low as possible

Understanding Each Chemical

Sanitizer (Chlorine or Bromine)

What it does:

- Kills bacteria, viruses, algae, and contaminants.
 - If too low:
 - Cloudy water
 - Strong odors
 - Unsafe soaking conditions
 - If too high:
 - Skin and eye irritation
 - Fading covers and pillows
 - Corrosion of components
- How to adjust:
 - Add sanitizer slowly with pumps running
 - Retest after 30 minutes

pH (Power of Hydrogen)

What it does:

Controls how acidic or basic your water is and how effective your sanitizer works.

- Low pH (acidic):
 - Corrosion of heaters & pumps
 - Eye/skin irritation
- High pH (basic):
 - Cloudy water
 - Scale buildup
 - Sanitizer becomes ineffective

How to adjust:

- Low pH → Add pH increaser
- High pH → Add pH decreaser

Total Alkalinity

What it does:

Buffers pH and keeps it stable.

- If too low:
 - pH swings wildly
 - Corrosion risk
- If too high:
 - Hard to adjust pH
 - Cloudy water

How to adjust:

- Raise with alkalinity increaser
- Lower with small doses of pH decreaser

Calcium Hardness

What it does:

Prevents water from being corrosive or scale-forming.

- Too low:
 - Etches heaters and plumbing
 - Shortens equipment life
- Too high:
 - White scale buildup
 - Cloudy water
 - Heater inefficiency

How to adjust:

- Raise with calcium increaser
- Reduce by partial drain & refill

Shock Treatment

What it does:

Burns off oils, lotions, sweat, and organic waste.

- When to shock:
 - Weekly
 - After parties or heavy use
 - If water smells or looks dull

Pro Tip:

Non-chlorine shock allows same-day soaking.



Weekly Physical Maintenance

- Clean the Waterline
- Wipe scum and oils from shell weekly
- Prevents buildup and waterline stains
- Rinse Your Filter (Weekly)
- Turn off spa
- Remove filter
- Hose from top to bottom
- Reinstall
- Deep clean monthly with filter cleaner.



Common Water Problems & Fixes

Cloudy Water

Causes:

- Low sanitizer
- Dirty filter
- Poor circulation
- High pH or calcium

Fix:

- Test & balance water
- Shock spa
- Rinse filter
- Run jets longer

Foamy Water

Causes:

- Lotions, detergents, body oils
- Old water

Fix:

- Use defoamer (temporary)
- Shock water
- Rinse swimsuits in water only
- Drain & refill if persistent

Discolored Water (Green, Brown, Yellow)

Causes:

- Metals in fill water
- Low sanitizer

Fix:

- Add metal sequestrant
- Shock spa
- Use pre-filter on hose

Calcium Scale Buildup

Causes:

- High calcium
- High pH
- Evaporation

Fix:

- Lower pH
- Add scale control
- Partial drain & refill

Pro Tips from Hot Spas

- ✓ Always add chemicals with pumps running
- ✓ Never mix chemicals directly
- ✓ Keep spa covered when not in use
- ✓ Replace water every 3–4 months
- ✓ When in doubt—stop and test again

When to Call Hot Spas

Call us if you notice:

- Persistent cloudy or foamy water
- Strong odors
- Heater not maintaining temperature
- Error codes or leaks
- You're tired of guessing 😊

Hot Spas – Your Trusted Spa Care Experts Serving Idaho's Treasure Valley

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 Book Online: <https://book.heygoldie.com/Hot-Spas>

Relax. We've got your spa covered.