



Filter cartridge element cleaning for chlorine/bromine pools

Warning: You should always wear rubber gloves, safety glasses and clothing when working with any chemicals. You will need up to three separate clean plastic containers for this process.

DO NOT USE THE SAME CONTAINER FOR EACH STEP. RESIDUE FROM EACH CHEMICAL CAN REACT WITH SUBSEQUENT CHEMICALS CAUSING INJURY OR DEATH.

All solutions should be completely neutralized of harmful chemicals prior to disposal.

DO NOT FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU ARE USING A BIGUANIDE TO SANITIZE YOUR WATER. FOLLOW YOUR BIGUANIDE MANUFACTURE'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLEANING YOUR CARTRIDGE FILTER.

1. Check your filter pressure when starting the system with a clean set of elements and record this reading as your 'Clean' reading. You should have all skimmer valves, main drain valves and only pool returns open. Do not run water features, slides, etc., as this will cause pressure readings to vary. If you have a variable speed pump, you should run it at an elevated speed, such as a vacuum or cleaner speed, to ensure you have good water flow. When the filter's pressure increases 5 to 7 pounds above the 'Clean' reading, with valves and pump speed as described above, it is time to clean the elements.
2. Before you begin, shut off your pump.
3. Remove air from the system. Turn the air relief valve that is usually located on the top of your filter slowly to remove any excess air from the system.
4. Take off the clamps holding the filter together. Different types of filters use different mechanisms to hold the filter together, these must be removed in order to remove the filter.
5. Remove the top of the filter. Once the clamps are removed, take off the top of the filter to expose the elements inside of the cartridge.
6. Slowly and carefully remove each of the elements of the cartridge and set them aside. Take note of how each element is positioned inside the filter and take note of any damage to the elements. If you find any cracks or tears, you should consider replacing those parts of the filter.
7. Rinse the elements with a hose gently to remove dirt and debris.
8. Fill a clean plastic container with a solution of water and sodium hypochlorite (Liquid chlorine) to remove bacteria. A typical solution is one gallon of chlorine to every 5 gallons of water.
9. Place the elements in the chlorine solution and allow them to soak overnight. If portions of the elements are not completely submerged, you may need to turn them over and repeat.
10. Remove the elements from the solution and rinse the elements gently with a hose.
11. Fill a clean plastic container with a solution of water and Poolside Filter Wash, following the manufacturer's directions. In lieu of Poolside Filter Wash, trisodium phosphate (TSP) can be used. A typical solution is one pound of TSP to every 10 gallons of water.
12. Place the elements in the degreasing solution and allow them to soak overnight. If portions of the elements are not completely submerged, you may need to turn them over and repeat.

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13. Remove the elements from the solution and rinse the elements gently with a hose.
14. Inspect the elements for cleanliness. If the element has a coating of algae, calcium, iron, or other minerals, in a clean plastic container, create a solution of 1-part muriatic acid to 20 parts water. Fill the clean plastic container with water first, then add the acid. *WARNING: Failure to remove oils and cleaning/degreasing solutions from the elements before soaking in the acid solution will result in a permanent restriction of water flow through your element and will cause premature cartridge failure!
15. Place the elements in the acid solution and allow them to soak overnight. If portions of the elements are not completely submerged, you may need to turn them over and repeat.
16. Remove the elements from the solution and rinse the elements gently with a hose.
17. Once all of the elements have been cleaned, allow them to air dry. Air drying allows the fibers to fluff, providing better filtration.
18. Once dry, return the elements to the filter tank and secure them in place.
19. While your filter is apart, double check the O-ring on the filter tank. If it is dry rotted, appears too flat, or leaves a black residue on your hands and fingers, you will need to replace it before reassembling your filter. If it appears to be in good shape, add a light layer of silicone-based lubricant to the O-ring. Do NOT use a petroleum-based lubricant!
20. Replace the filter tank top and close the clamps that hold it securely in place.
21. Turn your system back on and then open the air relief valve to release any excess air that is in the system. Keep the valve open until a steady stream of water sprays from it.
22. Double check the system pressure to be sure it is in normal range. If the pressure levels seem off, you may have put it back together incorrectly or you may have other problems with your system. Shut off your system and call your All Seasons Pools, Spas & Outdoor Living swimming pool professional!

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