

Setting Up A New Hot Tub with

AQUASparkle



Setting Up Your New Hot Tub

A simple commissioning guide from AquaSParkle

Welcome to the world of hot tub ownership!

Before you enjoy your first soak, it is essential that your hot tub is correctly commissioned. Every hot tub is factory-tested, and small amounts of water can remain in the pipework and jets. If left untreated, this residual water may harbour bacteria and affect water quality.

Commissioning involves applying an initial high-level of chlorine to thoroughly clean the internal system, ensuring your hot tub starts life clean, safe and bacteria-free.

This guide will take you step by step through the commissioning process using AquaSParkle products, helping you achieve crystal-clear water and complete peace of mind from day one.

Why commissioning matters

- Removes bacteria from internal pipework and jets
- Protects you from harmful microorganisms
- Provides the best foundation for ongoing water balance
- Helps your hot tub perform efficiently from first use

Recommended products for commissioning

- AquaSParkle Rapid Shock
 - AquaSParkle Quick Chlorine Reducer Liquid
- Recommended for faster hot tub entry



Support when you need it

Scan the QR code on the product label for easy-to-follow instructions or contact your local AquaSParkle dealer for additional support.

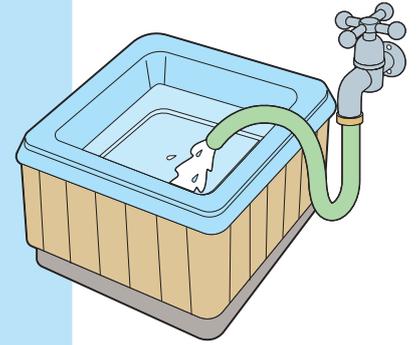


Commissioning Your Hot Tub

Step 1: Fill the hot tub

Fill your hot tub with fresh mains water. If using a hose, run it for several minutes before filling to flush out any dirt or bacteria that may have built up while out of use. Place the hose into the filter housing or skimmer basket to allow the system to fill correctly.

Important: Do not allow the hose to sit below the waterline, as this may cause back-siphoning.



Step 2: Add sanitiser

Pre-dissolve AquaSPARKle Rapid Shock in a clean container of warm water. Refer to **Table 5** for the correct commissioning dose.

The target level during commissioning is 50mg/l of free chlorine, which removes bacteria and any potential Legionella within the pipework.

If Rapid Shock is unavailable, AquaSPARKle Chlorine Granules may be used to achieve the same chlorine level. Refer to **Table 6** for dosing guidance.

Step 3: Circulate the water

Switch on your hot tub and allow the sanitiser to dissolve and circulate for 15 minutes. Run all pumps, open the air control valves and operate any diverter valves to ensure water flows through all jets and pipework.

For effective sanitisation, allow the water to circulate for one hour.

Step 4: Reduce chlorine levels (optional)

After one hour, chlorine levels may be reduced to enable faster hot tub use.

With the pumps running, carefully add AquaSPARKle Quick Chlorine Reducer Liquid in line with **Table 4** dosing guidance. This is a cost-effective way to make the hot tub ready for safe use sooner.

If Chlorine Reducer is not available, you may either partially drain and dilute the water or allow chlorine levels to reduce naturally over time.

**Ideal
chlorine levels
for bathing:
3–5mg/l**

Important: Do not overdose Chlorine Reducer. Excessive use will neutralise sanitiser and allow bacteria to grow.

Once commissioning is complete, you can move on to balancing your water to protect your spa and ensure safe, comfortable bathing.

Balancing Your Hot Tub Water

Commissioning has removed bacteria from your hot tub. The next step is to balance your water.

Balanced water protects your hot tub from scale and corrosion, allows sanitiser to work effectively and ensures safe, comfortable bathing.



Step 5: Test the water

With the jets switched off, dip a test strip into your hot tub water. Follow the instructions on the test strip container.

Important: When chlorine levels are above 15mg/l, test strips may not show a reading, as high chlorine can bleach the strip.

Always check results in the following order:

- 1. TOTAL ALKALINITY**
Ideal level
80 - 150
ppm
- 2. pH**
Ideal level
7.2 - 7.6
- 3. CHLORINE**
Ideal level
3 - 5
ppm

Step 6: Adjust total alkalinity

Total alkalinity should be within the recommended range of 80–150mg/l.

- If TA is below 80mg/l, add TA Plus (see Table 1)
- If TA is above 150mg/l, add pH Minus (see Table 2)

Step 7: Adjust pH

Once total alkalinity is correct, check the pH level. The recommended pH range is 7.2–7.6.

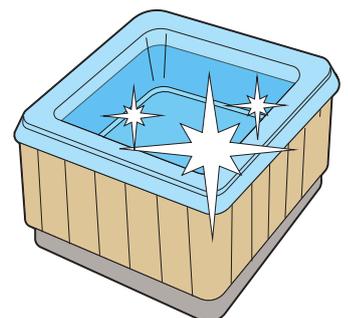
- If pH is below 7.2, add pH Plus (see Table 3)
- If pH is above 7.6, add pH Minus (see Table 2)

Step 8: Protect against scale (hard water areas)

If you live in a hard water area, your hot tub is more prone to scale build-up. This can cause cloudy water, restrict water flow and reduce heater efficiency.

To help prevent scale:

- Add 50ml of ScaleAway during set-up
- Continue with 25ml weekly as part of regular maintenance



Always make adjustments gradually. Add one product at a time and allow it to circulate fully before retesting.

New Hot Tub Check List

Step 1

Fill the hot tub with fresh mains water
Place the hose in the skimmer basket or filter housing

Step 2

Add AquaSPArkle Rapid Shock to achieve 50mg/l (see table 5)

If Rapid Shock is unavailable:

Use Chlorine Granules to achieve 50mg/l (see Table 6)

Step 3

Switch on the hot tub

Run all pumps

Open air control and diverter valves

Allow water to circulate for 1 hour

Step 4

(optional)

Option 1 (faster): Add Chlorine Reducer as per Table 4

Option 2: Partially drain and dilute with fresh water

Option 3: Allow chlorine levels to reduce naturally

Step 5

Test the water using a test strip (jets off)

Record your readings:

• Total Alkalinity (TA): _____ mg/l

• pH: _____

• Chlorine: _____ mg/l

Step 6

Total Alkalinity should be **80–150mg/l**

If below 80mg/l, add TA Plus (see Table 1)

If above 150mg/l, add pH Minus (see Table 2)

Step 7

pH should be **7.2–7.6**

If below 7.2, add **pH Plus** (see Table 3)

If above 7.6, add **pH Minus**

Step 8

(hard water areas)

Add 50ml ScaleAway during set-up

Continue with 25ml weekly as part of routine care

Step 9

Set the water temperature

Confirm chlorine is within the bathing range (3–5mg/l)

Relax and enjoy!

Dose tables

Table 1: Increasing Total Alkalinity (T.A Plus)			
Litres	Gallons	To increase total alkalinity by 10mg/l	To increase total alkalinity by 25mg/l
500	110	2tsp	6tsp
1,000	220	4tsp	9tsp
1,500	330	6tsp	12tsp

Table 2: Decreasing Total Alkalinity (pH Minus)			
Litres	Gallons	To decrease total alkalinity by 10mg/l	To decrease total alkalinity by 25mg/l
500	110	3tsp	7tsp
1,000	220	5tsp	13tsp
1,500	330	7tsp	19tsp

Table 3: Altering pH (pH Plus & pH Minus)			
Litres	Gallons	To increase pH, add pH Plus	To decrease pH, add pH Minus
500	110	1tsp	1tsp
1,000	220	2tsp	2tsp
1,500	330	3tsp	3tsp

Table 4: Reducing Chlorine Levels (Chlorine Reducer) (Do NOT overdose this product)			
Litres	Gallons	Approx dose to reduce chlorine	
500	110	1/4 bottle	
1,000	220	1/2 bottle	
1,500	330	3/4 bottle	

Table 5: Commissioning Dose (Rapid Shock)			
Litres	Gallons	Approx dose to achieve 50mg/l of chlorine	
500	110	7tsp	
1,000	220	14tsp	
1,500	330	22tsp	

Table 6: Commissioning Dose (Chlorine Granules)			
Litres	Gallons	Approx dose to achieve 50mg/l of chlorine	
500	110	10tsp	
1,000	220	20tsp	
1,500	330	30tsp	

Table 7: Regular Sanitiser Dosing (Chlorine Granules)			
Litres	Gallons	Approx dose to increase chlorine by 3mg/l	
500	110	1/2tsp	
1,000	220	1tsp	
1,500	330	2tsp	

New hot tub tips

Drain your hot tub every 2-3 months to deep clean the shell and filters.

Always shower in your swim suit to remove any cosmetics, detergents and body oils that can cause cloudy, foamy water.

Remember to always add chemicals to water when pre-dissolving granules and not the other way round

Test your water daily so you know your hot tub is in the ideal ranges for safe and comfortable bathing

Balancing and sanitising your water effectively will prevent a need for costly remedy treatment in the future

Get an annual service to give your hot tub a deep clean. The pipework can build up grime if not properly flushed out

Always contact the showroom you bought your hot tub from to seek advice on hot tub water care



**This guide gives comprehensive guidance
on setting up a new hot tub.**

**For further information, please contact
your AquaSParkle dealer or use the
Technical Helpline below.**

Technical Helpline: 0371 222 9084

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