

THE HOT TUB REPORT

DOWNLOADABLE WATER-CARE GUIDE

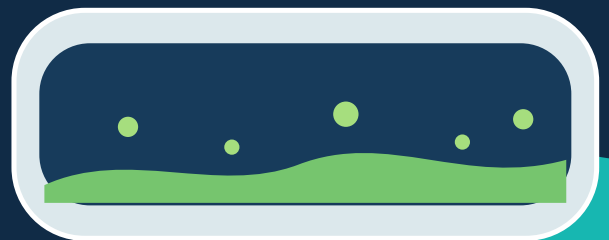
HOT TUB BIOFILM TREATMENT

For Clear, Healthy Water

Learn how to recognize hidden plumbing buildup, complete a safe purge, and prevent recurring water-care problems.

INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- What biofilm is and why it resists treatment
- Signs that point to hidden plumbing buildup
- How to select and use a spa purge product
- A complete drain, clean, and refill sequence
- Prevention habits and a purge checklist



WHERE BETTER HOT TUBBING BEGINS

THEHOTTUBREPORT.COM

THE HIDDEN LAYER

What Is Hot Tub Biofilm?

Biofilm is a community of microorganisms attached to a surface and protected by a self-produced, glue-like matrix. Warm plumbing, low-flow areas, and available nutrients can give it places to establish and persist.

INSIDE A PLUMBING LINE



PROTECTIVE MATRIX

The matrix can trap oils, soap residue, dirt, and organic debris. It slows sanitizer contact and creates extra sanitizer demand, which is why ordinary dosing may not solve a mature buildup.

Clues That Deserve Attention

SANITIZER VANISHES

A properly dosed sanitizer repeatedly falls to zero faster than expected.

CLOUDINESS RETURNS

Water turns dull again after filters and balance have been corrected.

ODOR OR SLIME

Musty odor, slippery residue, flakes, or material released from jets.

A FRESH FILL STRUGGLES

Problems return soon after refilling, suggesting the source may be inside the plumbing.

ONE SYMPTOM IS NOT A DIAGNOSIS

Low sanitizer, cloudy water, or odor can also come from dosing, filtration, or water-balance problems. Rule out the basics; purge when the pattern points back to plumbing buildup.

BEFORE TREATMENT

Prepare for a Safe, Effective Purge

A spa purge uses a hot-tub-specific plumbing cleaner to loosen and carry buildup out of hidden lines. Product directions vary, so the label and your spa manual always come first.

Choose the Right Product

- Use a cleaner specifically labeled for hot tub or spa plumbing.
- Confirm compatibility with your sanitizer system and spa materials.
- Use the exact dose for your spa volume.
- Never combine purge cleaner with other products unless the label directs it.

Gather Before You Start

- Purge product and measuring tools
- Filter cleaner or replacement cartridge
- Soft cloths, bucket, and shell-safe cleaner
- Drain hose or submersible pump
- Wet/dry vacuum if appropriate
- Fresh-water hose and pre-filter if used

Three Decisions to Make First

1

FILTERS

Some products direct you to remove filters; others use them during treatment. Follow the purge label. Heavily contaminated filters may need replacement.

2

DRAIN LOCATION

Know where the water can drain legally and safely. Keep purge water away from ponds, streams, sensitive plants, and neighboring property.

3

WEATHER

Avoid draining during freezing conditions unless you can complete the work promptly and protect exposed plumbing from freeze damage.

If the spa has been associated with illness, heavy contamination, or repeated failure after purging, contact a qualified professional.

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TREATMENT SEQUENCE - PART ONE

Loosen and Flush the Plumbing

Keep people and pets out of the spa during treatment. Wear any protective equipment listed on the product label, and maintain ventilation around indoor installations.

1

Prepare the filters

Remove, retain, clean, or replace them exactly as the purge product and spa manufacturer direct.

2

Add the measured purge product

Use the dose for your verified water volume. Do not estimate or mix cleaners.

3

Open every water path

Set diverters so cleaner reaches all zones; activate waterfalls and water features when the instructions allow.

4

Run the pumps as directed

Use the specified speed and cycle time. Close air controls if the label recommends limiting foam.

5

Allow the contact time

Let the cleaner work for the full labeled period. Never exceed product directions in hopes of a stronger result.

6

Cycle again and move diverters

Run the pumps for the final cycle and move diverters through positions to help flush each line.

FOAM IS NOT A BIOFILM METER

Purge products can foam on their own, and trapped organics can add more. Heavy foam may show contamination, but the foam level does not reliably measure how much biofilm is present.

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TREATMENT SEQUENCE - PART TWO

Drain, Clean, Refill, and Restart

Once treatment is complete, remove the loosened material from the spa instead of allowing it to dry on the shell or remain in low spots.

7

Shut off power

Turn the spa off at the disconnect or breaker before draining. Confirm pumps and heaters cannot start dry.

8

Drain completely

Use the built-in drain or a suitable submersible pump. Follow local disposal requirements.

9

Remove remaining water

Use a wet/dry vacuum or scoop where appropriate, including seats, footwell, and accessible low spots.

10

Clean the shell and waterline

Wipe away residue with clean water, soft cloths, and only products approved for the spa surface.

11

Refill as the manual directs

Many spas are filled through the filter well or standpipe to reduce airlock risk, but follow your exact model's procedure.

12

Reinstall, restart, and rebalance

Install clean filters, restore power, confirm circulation, heat the spa, and complete the manufacturer's startup chemistry.

VERIFY BEFORE YOU SOAK

Confirm normal flow, balanced water, and the correct sanitizer level. A purge reduces hidden buildup; it does not replace ongoing filtration, sanitation, and maintenance.

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KEEP BUILDUP UNDER CONTROL

Your Biofilm Prevention Plan

Biofilm prevention is not one product or one perfect purge. It is the combined result of consistent sanitizer, clean filters, fresh water, good circulation, and timely plumbing maintenance.

Every Week

- Test and maintain the sanitizer required by your system.
- Keep pH and alkalinity in the recommended range.
- Rinse filters when debris or reduced flow is present.
- Watch for unusual odor, slime, flakes, or sudden sanitizer loss.
- Maintain water level and confirm normal circulation.

At Water Changes

- Purge on the schedule recommended by the product and spa manufacturer.
- Every 3-4 months is a common water-change rhythm, adjusted for use and water care.
- Deep-clean or replace filters as needed.
- Clean the shell, waterline, cover underside, and accessible fittings.

Purge-Day Checklist

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Verify spa volume | ☐ Open all water paths |
| ☐ Read purge label | ☐ Complete full contact time |
| ☐ Plan safe drainage | ☐ Clean shell and low spots |
| ☐ Prepare filter care | ☐ Rebalance before soaking |

WATCH THE STEPS IN ACTION

The Hot Tub Report: Purge Your Problems Away

youtu.be/bMUqreOA-wE

THE TAKEAWAY

Reduce the buildup, restore the water, and keep the routine consistent.