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## Silk Balance Hot Tub Chemistry

### Important Start Up Tips

- **ALWAYS** turn off power when draining your hot tub.
- When refilling your hot tub, always refill through your **filter compartment**. Stick your garden hose down the main filter standpipe (generally under the grey cap). This allows the hot tub to be filled through the plumbing lines first and then enter the pool of the tub avoiding air locks and going into protection mode.
- **NEVER REFILL A HOT TUB WITH HOT WATER**, always use cold or tempered water.

### Start Up

1. Add CU LATER metal remover floater to the tub during fill up.
2. Insert the Freshwater Silver Ion Cartridge into the grey standpipe in your filter compartment. \*Cartridges have a lifespan of 4 months\*
3. Water must be warm or at temperature before adding products. Powder products should be added to the filter compartment with jets on and cover should remain open for 30 mins after adding product. Use a test strip and check levels:
  - a. Maintain total alkalinity between 80 ppm – 120ppm
    - i. If total alkalinity is low use Total Alkalinity Increaser to raise levels
    - ii. If total alkalinity is high use pH Decreaser to lower levels
    - iii. After adjusting total alkalinity wait 8+ hrs before checking and adjusting pH. However, you can move on and adjust calcium hardness/shock in the meantime. **\*Total alkalinity affects pH and therefore needs to stabilize before you can get an accurate reading\***
  - b. Maintain pH between 7.2 – 7.8
    - i. If pH is low after adjusting total alkalinity use pH Increaser to raise levels
    - ii. If pH is high after adjusting total alkalinity use pH Decreaser to lower levels
  - c. Maintain Calcium Hardness below 250 ppm
    - i. If calcium hardness is high use Stain and Scale Control on a weekly basis or use a Vanishing Act Calcium Removing pillow at start up.
4. Add 1 tablespoon of Enhanced Shock per 300 gals

### Weekly

1. Use a test strip, check levels, and adjust accordingly (anytime you add product to the water, run your jets for 10 mins to circulate)
2. Add Silk Balance dosage shown on bottle cap
3. Add 1 tablespoon of Enhanced Shock twice a week.



\*refer to High Usage section on back page if you experience cloudy water\*

4. Rotate filters

**Monthly**

1. Remove filters and rinse them with a high-pressure hose monthly.
  - a. TriX filters (hard, ceramic filters standard on Highlife Collection tubs) can be cleaned in the dishwasher by using a hot water rinse, no detergent, and with the heat dry cycle off.
2. Remove your filters and soak them in a solution of the Filter Cleaner pod or Liquid Filter Cleaner and water. Follow cleaner recommendations for process.
  - a. DO NOT use filter cleaner pods (or any cleaner/soap) in the dishwasher
  - b. It is best to let filters air dry for 24 hrs before putting them back into the tub. Consider getting a second set of filters to be able to use the tub while the other set of filters are being cleaned or drying.

**Important Tips**

1. Heavy Usage:
  - a. When you first get your hot tub there is a tendency for customers to **experience cloudiness due to high usage**. Most of our dosing recommendations are based on two people using the hot tub a few times a week. If more people are using the tub more frequently you may need to add more Enhanced Shock to keep the water clear. Start by adding an extra tablespoon or two of Enhanced Shock, leave the cover open and jets on for 15mins to oxidize.
  - b. **Laundry detergent, body oils, lotions, hair products** are the main things that cause cloudiness or foaming in the tub. If you are wearing bathing suits, be sure that you run them through a warm water rinse cycle in the washer without detergent and make that bathing suit your dedicated hot tub suit. Also encourage guests to rinse off before entering the tub.
2. Winter Weather:
  - a. **IF THE POWER GOES OUT DO NOT DRAIN YOUR HOT TUB**
  - b. **DO NOT DRAIN AND REFILL YOUR HOT TUB IF THE TEMPERATURE OUTSIDE IS BELOW 32 DEGREES.**
  - c. Your Winter Blanket should be installed in your equipment compartment between November through April.
  - d. Maintain a temperature of 100 – 104 degrees during winter months. A common misconception is that turning the temperature down will save electricity. Savings are minimal and power outages are common in Vermont.
3. Cleaning:
  - a. It is important to drain and refill your hot tub every 6 months, ideally in the Spring and Fall.
  - b. If you ever experience a buildup of dirt and oils along the water line, Mr. Clean Magic Erasers work very well for cleaning the water line.