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TROUBLESHOOTING

From time to time all hot tub owners may run into a spa upkeep problem. No need to despair! Use this handy guide to understand, solve, and prevent many common non-mechanical issues.

Problem	Cause	Solution
Cloudy and/or smelly water	Excessive contaminates Water out-of-balance Clogged or worn-out filter Low sanitizer level Activities of children	 Shock with Granular Dichlor Add Sea Klear clarifying agent Test and adjust pH level Clean or replace filter cartridge Check and/or adjust sanitizer level Change water. Use Spa System Flush prior to draining Encourage children to use restroom and shower prior to entering hot tubs
Excessive foaming. Water turns milky-white from small bubbles, when jets running	High contaminates and/or soap residues Buildups in spa plumbing system Low calcium water hardness Water out-of balance	Add defoamer and scum digester such as Scum Buster Use ZorbO scum absorber Use Spa System Flush prior to each draining Add Hardness Increaser Test and adjust pH level Clean or replace filter cartridge

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Skin irritation, rashes, strong fumes, burning eye sensation, hot tub Folliculitis

Cause

- Incorrect sanitizer level
- Excessive chloramines
- Water out-of-balance
- Buildup of gasses under spa cover
- Overdose of nonchlorine shock
- Biofilm contamination
- Pseudomonas bacteria

Solution

- Test and adjust sanitizer level
- Superchlorinate with Granular Dichlor to eliminate chloramines
- Test and adjust pH level
- Open spa cover, run jets on full & allow spa to aerate for 5-10 minutes prior to use. Check non-chlorine shock level with MPS Test Strips
- Switch to odor-free alternative sanitizer system: Cleanwater Blue or Nature2
- Read more about Biofilm and Disinfection procedures to prevent skin rashes and eliminate Pseudomonas bacteria.

Scum & oil film, tub ring

- Body oils, cosmetics, lotion residues
- Clogged or worn-out filter
- Add Scum Buster scum digester
- Use ZorbO oil scum absorber
- Clean or replace filter cartridge
- Clean water line with CleanAll non-foaming allsurface cleaner

Algae

- Low sanitizer level
- Excessive contaminates
- Add Spa Algaecide
- Shock-treat water with OxySpa
- Test and adjust sanitizer level
- Use an Ozonator

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Problem	Cause	Solution
Discolored water: water turns brown, blue, green or black	Excessive mineral content Metal parts in equipment eroding Copper, iron or manganese in water being oxidized by chlorine, monopersulfate or ozone Low pH Low hardness level	Add Stain, Scale, Metal Control Test and adjust pH level Prefilter fill water with PreFresh Run filter continuously to remove material; clean filter Vacuum settled material from spa bottom with Shake-a-Vac Use sequestering clarifier such as Sea Klear for prevention
Foul, sour or musty odor	Low sanitizer level Excessive contaminates Mold or mildew on underside of spa cover (may not be visible in early stages)	 Test and adjust sanitizer level Shock-treat water with OxySpa Change water & use Spa System Flush prior to draining Clean inside of spa cover & apply 303 Protectant Use an Ozonator
Excessive pH fluctuation	Improper total alkalinity level High bather load	 Test and adjust total alkalinity Add pH Proper pH holding agent to lock-in pH
Stains or scale on spa surfaces	Mineral content of water Well water	Use a surface stain remover such as GLB TLC Use Stain, Scale, Metal Control* to minimize future problems Purify fill water with PreFresh Hose-end Prefilter Use a surface stain removed the stain removes the stain removes the stain removes the stain removes the surface stain removes the stain remove

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Problem	Cause	Solution
Fading & cracking of spa cover	 Sunlight damage Use of products containing silicone oil 	Use a spa cover protectant to greatly increase the life of your cover, such as 303 Protectant
Scratches on spa shell Shell surface	Abrasion from dirt & grit Sun damage, normal	 Remedy with a scratch- removal kit such as Novus Remove grit and debris with the Shake-a-Vac Clean all surfaces with
dull or faded	wear and tear	Clean All non-foaming spray cleaner • Apply Gel Gloss polish to seal and restore luster to hot tubs and spas
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