

Getting the optimum performance from your aquifier filter:

The aquifier safelock filter is designed to improve the taste, clarity & odour of your water. Our improved safelock filter is designed to change as easily as a light bulb and contains two elements for effective filtering:

- 1) Activated Carbon – reduces the presence of chlorines, alcohols, bleach and detergents among others.
- 2) Polyphosphate crystals - these slowly dissolve temporarily improving the effects of 'hard water'

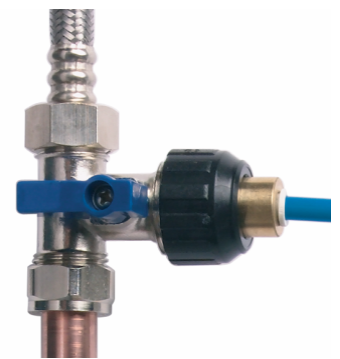
Follow the simple steps below:

a) Set the correct flow rate through your filter:

Follow the blue pipe from the underside of tap, through the filter to a chrome valve connected to your cold water pipe, turning the handle on this valve will affect the volume of water passing through your filter.

Turn the tap handle fully on to filtered water, place a measuring jug under the tap and time the period it takes to fill to one litre. You should aim to get apx. 2-3 litres of filtered water per minute. Adjust the chrome valve attached to your cold water pipe until it is at the correct flow rate, note the optimum flow rate will change depending upon the quality of the incoming water, the poorer the quality the slower the flow rate will need to be.

The slower the flow of water, the more 'contact' time it has with the filter and the better the filter will perform.



The valve connecting to your cold pipe.
(note: the valve on the first generation of product will look different)

b) Flush the tap and filter through before use:

When you use any tap, you should run the tap before you use it, an aquifier tap is the same, the only difference is that the amount of 'old' water held within the tap, pipes & filter unit is greater than a conventional tap and therefore takes longer to flush.

Before drinking water from your tap flush the tap though. Turn on the filtered water for 1-2 litres (apx. 20-30 seconds) this flushes any old water that may be within the tap.

The more recently the tap has been used, the less flushing is required. If the tap has not been used for a several hours then flush the tap for longer, this reactivates the filter and ensure only fresh water is delivered.

c) Polyphosphate and 'hard' water.

The polyphosphate in the filter cartridge is a slow dissolving compound that mixes with the water passing through the filter. Polyphosphate does not remove limescale, it temporarily changes the polarity of the water passing through the filter, lasting a number of hours. When the water is freshly charged the polyphosphate will help to repel the scale from heating elements such as kettles, irons and cookware.

Once the temporary charge has dissipated the repelling effect is lost. When using the filtered water with a kettle, only boil the amount you need. If the kettle is reboiled a few hours later then the water repolarises increasing the effects of scale and scum. Only boil the amount of water required and empty the kettle after use, this is also more energy efficient.

The 'hardness' of water is measured in degrees Clarke. Your water supplier will have information on approximate hardness values in your area. The harder the water being supplied to your tap the more the effects will be visible.

If your water is towards the high end of the Clarke scale the filter will only be partially effective against the effects of hard water and you should consider upgrading to our 'high resin filter', call for details.

Description	Clarke
Soft	0 to 3.5
Moderately soft	3.6 to 7
Medium / Slightly hard	7.1 to 10
Moderately hard	10.1 to 14
Hard	14.1 to 21
Very hard	over 21

d) Replace the filter regularly:

The Safelock filter is designed to work for 6 months, we recommend regular replacement on the basis of hygiene and filter performance. We offer a free registration and reminder service to aquifer customers, a courtesy letter is issued automatically prior to the 6 month period expires.

Customers who have large families, use the product very frequently or live in very hard water areas often find replacing the filter more frequently keeps the water quality to a consistently high level.

Should the above advice not improve the scale or scum issues with your water, abode also supply a 'high resin' safelock filter, this is designed specifically for customers in very hard water areas and performs similar to jug filters. Please call abode for more information.

e) Set the flow rate after changing the filter:

After replacing your filter cartridge ensure to set the flow rate back to its previous level (see point a).

f) How to tell if your filter needs replacing before 6 months:

The easiest method to determine if your filter cartridge has expired is by taste. Use a clean glass and taste the filtered water first, then taste the unfiltered water. If the filtered water tastes of chlorine like the unfiltered water then the cartridge is reaching the end of its life and will need replacing.

g) If boiled water does not clear:

If when making hot drinks the boiled filtered water appears cloudy or milky or clears slowly, the tap needs flushing (see point b). If the tap has not been used for a few hours, overnight or longer the polyphosphate will dissolve to a stronger concentration this gives the cloudy appearance when boiled. This is completely safe and only effect the visual appearance, simply flush the tap for a longer period before use.

h) If the filtered water flows through slower than normal:

This effect could be the result of the sediment in your water supply blocking the filter. Alternatively if the filter is new the water supply pressure to your house may have dropped.