

Steps for Cleaning and Disinfecting Foot-basin/Spa in Personal Service Setting



Region of Waterloo
PUBLIC HEALTH AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bacterial and fungal skin infections have been linked to improper cleaning and disinfecting of foot-basin/spa. The infection control precautions below must be followed to protect both aestheticians and clients from infections that are often associated with pedicures.

Non-circulating Foot-basin

After each client:

1. Wash foot-basin with hot soapy water.
2. Rinse foot-basin with clean water.
3. Disinfect with an approved intermediate or high-level disinfectant. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding concentration and contact time.
4. Allow basin to air dry or wipe dry with a clean towel.

NOTE: If single-use disposable liners are used between each client, the foot-basin must be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day.

Circulating Foot-Spa Including Air-Jet Basins and Pipe-Less Spas

After each client:

1. Drain the foot-spa completely.
2. Wash foot-spa basin with hot soapy water and use a brush to remove the dirt. Rinse with clean water.
3. Refill foot-spa with warm water just above the jets. Measure this quantity of water to determine the correct amount of disinfectant to add.
4. Add the required amount of intermediate or high-level disinfectant and activate jets following the manufacturer's instructions for concentration and contact time.
5. Drain the foot-spa and air dry or wipe dry with a clean towel.

At end of each day:

1. Remove filter screen, drain plug and all other removable parts from the foot-spa basin. Clean with hot soapy water and use a brush to remove the dirt. Rinse with clean water.
2. Place all removable parts back in the foot-spa basin.
3. Fill the foot-spa with water just above the jets. Add two or three tablespoons of low sudsing detergent and activate the jets for five minutes. Drain and refill the foot-spa with clean water to rinse out the detergent.
4. Refill the foot-spa with lukewarm water just above the jets. Measure this quantity of water to determine the correct amount of disinfectant to add.
5. Add the required amount of intermediate or high-level disinfectant and activate jets following manufacturer's instructions for concentration and contact time. Jets must be activated for at least 10 minutes.
6. Drain the foot-spa and air dry or wipe dry with a clean towel.

Tips:

1. Do not use oil-based products in the foot-spa or on the client's feet or legs before they use the foot-spa. Oil will build up in the recirculation lines and provide a breeding ground for bacteria.
2. Never mix chlorine bleach with ammonia products. The combination produces toxic chlorine gas and is dangerous to your health.
3. If using five per cent household chlorine bleach as the intermediate level disinfectant, add three tablespoons for each gallon of water and allow a 10 minute contact time.

Alternate formats of this document are available upon request.

Region of Waterloo Public Health

Health Protection and Investigation
519-575-4400 ext. 5147