

GUIDELINES FOR CHLORINATING DOMESTIC PLUMBING

The following guidelines are for DOMESTIC PLUMBING installations, where for example, new plumbing has been installed, a new water tank has been fitted, or disruptions to your water supply have occurred.

1. Turn off the mains water supply into the header tank to prevent it re-filling during chlorination.
2. Dose the water in the tank to a minimum 50 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine using [PN501 Chlorine Tablets](#).
3. Test the header tank water using [PN970 Ultra High Level Chlorine Test Strips](#).
4. Run each water tap or outlet (including WCs) until the smell of chlorine can be detected, whilst ensuring that the header tank does not empty during this time.
5. When all outlets have been run and checked, top the header tank back up to the normal level and redoes to 50ppm.
6. Leave the system for at least one hour.
7. Then check for residual chlorine at each tap or outlet. To do this, use the PN970 test strips again. Each pack contains 50 test strips. Check each outlet using a test strip. If the residual chlorine in the system drops to the 25ppm level, then repeat the chlorination process.
8. When the chlorination has been satisfactorily completed, the chlorine in the system can be reduced using sodium thiosulphate (not supplied) or in a small system, new fresh water introduced and the system flushed.

TOP TIPS:

When treating enclosed plumbing systems, it is essential not to allow fresh unchlorinated water to enter the system whilst the chlorination process is underway.

The nearer you go to the inlet water supply, the contamination risk may be higher, therefore we suggest that any new parts or pipes are soaked in a 1,000ppm chlorine solution for 15 minutes before fitting.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I use retail bleach products instead of tablets?
 - a. We would not recommend the use of domestic bleach because the strength is variable, usually they contain surfactants (detergents) that can create foam which is hard to disperse and they also contain large quantities of sodium based products to stabilise them. We always recommend tablets as the safe alternative to liquid bleach.
2. I get water from a Well or Reed Bed, is it the same process?
 - a. Each installation is individual and may contain filters at various stages in the system. You may also need to test for other contamination including coliforms etc., however the system can often be chlorinated in the same way.
3. Can I chlorinate water stored in a tank?

- a. Assuming the tank is suitable for long term storage of water, then this can be treated to between 10-15ppm chlorine and the chlorine levels checked every 2 weeks or so using [PN944 Aquasparkle Test Strips](#). The chlorine in the water will degrade at various rates but is accelerated by any contamination in the tanks and also by sunlight and heat.

Legal disclaimer: The above information is offered as a guide only and the operator should satisfy themselves as to the effectiveness of the above guidelines and the suitability for their application. The information is believed to be correct but does not purport to be all inclusive and shall be used only as a guide – no warranty or indemnity is implied.