

CRYSTAL CLEAR POOLS

Swimming Pools, Spas, and Accessories!

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HOW TO OPERATE YOUR SAND FILTER & CHANGE YOUR SAND



The most common sand filters typically require 100lbs, 150lbs, 175lbs, 200lbs, 250lbs, 300lbs and up to 500lbs of grade 20-30 Fractured White Quartz filter sand. **Quickrete FILTER SAND WILL VOID WARRANTY!**

The pool water is drawn from the pool by suction via the pump/motor through a wall skimmer(s) and perhaps a main drain(s). In turn the water is injected into the sand filter and drawn down through the sand, filtering the water of particulates. The water is then moved through slotted lateral fingers and pushed up through the central plumbing pipe, out through the valve head, and returned to the swimming pool.

Your sand filter has a multiport valve. There are commonly two types of multi-port valves: Top-mount or Side-Mount. This valve changes the water flow's direction through the filter. Typically, you'll leave the valve in the FILTER position while circulating and filtering your pool water when the pump is running and the sand filter is in operation. Should you need to change the valve's position ***you must first turn the pump off.*** Then, depress the valve handle and rotate the handle in a ***CLOCKWISE-ONLY*** direction to the desired position; release the handle and turn the pump on. ***NEVER PUSH DOWN OR TURN HANDLE WHILE PUMP IS RUNNING.***



General operation of the filter would be leaving the valve in the filter position. The filter's pressure gauge should read approximately 10-12psi. As the sand collects debris (particles) the gauge reading will increase.

When the pressure reaches approximately 20psi you will need to clean the sand of debris.

Turn the pump off. Depress and move the valve handle (Clockwise) to the BACKWASH position. Turn the pump on. Water and debris will be blown out the Backwash hose. Watch the sight glass and visually observe the dirty water turn clean (clearer), perhaps 1-2 minutes.

Turn the pump off. Depress and move the handle to the RINSE position. Turn the pump on for 30 seconds to rinse the sand and then turn the pump off. Depress and move the valve handle (Clockwise) to the FILTER position, then turn the pump/motor back on. Now you're ready to filter for the next week.

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There are two positions (CLOSE and WINTER) that are used when the pool is winterized.

Should you want to simply circulate the pool water without filtering (through the sand), turn the pump off, depress the valve handle and Clockwise-rotate the hand to RECIRCULATE, release the valve handle and turn the pump on. The water flow will essentially bypass the filter but the water will be circulated.

This position is typically used for one of two scenarios:

When performing a floc treatment to prevent the sand from filtering out the chemical and preventing it from returning back to the pool.

The second, if you ever develop a leak on the filter dome or drain plug/cap or more commonly if you ever experience filter sand returning back to the pool. Re-circulate allows you to continue to keep your water moving because circulation helps keep chemicals distributed evenly keeping algae and bacterial at bay until you can resolve the problem.

Should you want to drain water (perhaps after a heavy rainfall) turn the pump off, depress the valve handle and rotate (Clockwise) the handle to the WASTE position. This will blow water from the backwash hose without running the water through the filter or returning water to the pool.

Note: If you intend to drain the water from your swimming pool to a level lower than the skimmer, without the use of any applicable main drain(s), you run the risk of damaging the pump motor. An auxiliary pump or siphon should be used. If your swimming pool has a main drain(s), rotate the 3-way (skimmer/main drain) valve to a position that would close the skimmer and utilize only the main drain to lower the pool's water level.

HOW TO CHANGE YOUR SAND

STEP 1: Check with owner's manual as to how to open the filter. There are several types of filters and each one differs as to the fill method and amount of sand.

STEP 2: The formula for figuring the amount of sand needed is as follows:

82 pounds of sand per cubic foot of filter area

There should be a tag on the filter tank stating the cubic feet.

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EXAMPLE: A 3.1 cubic foot filter would take 250 pounds of grade 20 Silica sand. However it is important to note that not all Silica or any sand is the same. Aqua Quartz is a very high quality of White Sand that has been washed and cleaned and has been fractured to catch more micro-particles. **BEWARE OF INEXPENSIVE FILTER SAND**. The label on the filter will also list popular Brands such as Hayward and their models such as (S166T, S180T, S210T, S244T and Pentair or PacFab's TR-40, TR-60, TR-100 etc.) and this will let your pool professional know how much sand your filter will require. NOTE: If you do not know how many cubic feet your filter is, simply fill the tank to approximately 3/4's full.

STEP 3: The best way to remove the old sand from your filter tank is to use a wet/dry vacuum or you can remove it by hand with a large plastic flexible scoop or drinking cup.

STEP 4: Check laterals, stand pipe & hub assembly, vent tube and screener for cracks, tears, holes or any damage and replace those parts prior to adding new sand. Otherwise, you'll experience sand returning back to pool via the return jets. This will create a big mess and more work. You'll have to start the entire process all over.

STEP 5: Before adding new sand, cover the standpipe by placing a rag inside the standpipe or a cup over it to prevent sand from going into the standpipe and stopping of the laterals. If you don't have a standpipe and your filter has a side-mount multi-port valve then simply swivel the diffuser over to the left or right so as not to pour sand directly down into the upper pipe assembly.

STEP 6: Fill the tank with water to six inches above the laterals. Water helps protect the laterals from damage due to the weight of the sand. Then slowly add enough sand to cove the laterals enough to hold them in place so that you can partially place the multi-port valve onto the stand pipe to ensure proper alignment before completely filling the tank. If you do not test for alignment during the filling stage, you will have to remove the majority of the sand. Otherwise, if you attempt for force the alignment, you will break both laterals and stand pipe.

STEP 7: Lube the tank O-ring and all other O-rings with a Teflon or Silicone based lubricant such as Magic Lube. **DO NOT use Vaseline or petroleum based lubricants**. They will contaminate the water leaving an oily surface film, will not stay in the applied location, they break-down plastic and rubber parts in your system, and gum up your new sand causing it to clump together and leave the filter during Backwashing.

STEP 8: If you have to cut pipes going to your filter's multiport valve, be sure to use PVC Quick-Disconnect Unions in lieu of regular pvc couples. This allows for easy access in the future when changing your sand again and for any repairs or maintenance to get back into your filter.

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STEP 9: After re-assembling the filter, you'll need to thoroughly backwash the new filter media for 3 to 5 minutes and then rinse for 30 seconds to purge any dust that is always found in new filter sand.

NOTE: Always follow label directions and manufacturer's instructions for each product used. Conditions may vary from pool to pool and modifications due to manufacturer's new product designs. Crystal Clear Pools Inc. does not assume any responsibility or liability for the results that may occur or be obtained through utilization of this or any other program, procedure or product.

If you have questions you can call us during normal business hours.
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We thank you for your support of your local store !!!!