

Inground Pool Care

Cleaning Pool Filters

latham

The Pool Company

How to Clean Diatomaceous Earth (DE) filters:

🕒 **Frequency:** Monthly

1. Backwash the filter until the sight glass is clear, then turn off the pump and turn the backwash valve to “filter”
2. Open the air relief valve, take out the drain plug, and let the water drain out of the tank
3. Open the filter tank and give a good rinse, making sure to clean the grids and manifold with a spray nozzle (if your grids are exceptionally dirty, you can use a DE cleaner)
4. Check manifold and grids for damage like cracks or tears
5. Place everything back in its original position inside the tank (don't over tighten the nuts!), lubricate the filter tank's O-ring, and replace the top of the filter tank
6. Mix up the grid cleaner into a slurry according to directions
7. Fill the strainer housing with water (let some water move through the incoming line), then close the lid
8. Open the pressure relief valve and turn on the pump; turn off the air valve when you see water coming out
9. Pour the DE cleaner slurry into the pool skimmer, let the pump run for a least 30 minutes

How to Clean Pool Filter Cartridges

 **Frequency:** 3-6 months

1. Turn off your pump and slowly open your air-relief valve to release excess air
2. Dismantle the cartridge filter (your user manual will come in handy here!) to get to the cartridge
3. Remove each cartridge and examine for damage, then place somewhere safe
4. Use a spray nozzle on a hose to remove contaminants, ensuring you get the water spray in between the pleats for a comprehensive clean. Always go top to bottom.
5. If your cartridge is oily or extra grimy, you can soak it in a pool cleaning solution for up to eight hours, make sure to get in between the pleats
6. Secure the clean cartridges in place inside the filter and replace the filter lid
7. Inspect the O-ring for damage like cracks and tears and replace if need be
8. Lubricate the O-ring, turn the system back on, and open the air-relief valve again
9. Wait until you have a consistent stream of water coming from the air relief valve, then close it
10. Examine the pressure gauge to check that the PSI is in a normal range (if it's off, you may have put the filter back together incorrectly)

How to Clean Sand Filters

 **Frequency:** 1-3 weeks

1. Turn off the pump
2. Set your valve to Backwash
3. Close your return fittings
4. Place your waste hose where you want the dirty water to flow
5. Turn the pump back on and check if the water in the sight glass is cloudy (it should be)
6. Run the pump on the Backwash setting for three to five minutes or until the water in the sight glass looks clear
7. Turn off the pump and the power
8. Set the valve to Rinse to flush out loose sand
9. Open your return valves and turn the power back on

Professionals Are Here to Help

If any of these pool maintenance tasks seem a little too daunting, it is never a bad idea to call your trusted independent builder to provide these services for you.

[Speak to a Builder](#)