## SOFTENER GUIDE





# HARD WATER: THE PROBLEM





#### LIMESCALE & WHITE SCALE DEPOSITS

On your surfaces, fixtures & fittings.





#### BLOCKED PIPES, TAPS & SHOWERHEADS

Reduced water flow & damage.

#### HIGH ENERGY BILLS & POOR HEATING

Reduced heating & water efficiency.





#### ECZEMA, DRY SKIN AND HAIR

Caused by hard water & it's mineral.

#### DAMAGED & BROKEN APPLIANCES

That need replacing more often.





#### EXPENSIVE CLEANING PRODUCTS

Hours spent cleaning limescale stains.

#### BOILER DAMAGES & ISSUES

Expensive call-out fees & repairs.





# A WATER SOFTER: THE SOLUTION





#### **REMOVES LIMESCALE &** WHITE STAINS

No more constant cleaning.



#### **UNBLOCKS PIPES, TAPS & SHOWERHEADS**

Protect fixtures & water pressure.



By increasing heating efficiency.





#### **CURES ECZEMA, DRY** SKIN & HAIR

Soft water naturally treats eczema.



Prevents damage & increases lifespan.



#### **REDUCES CLEANING & LAUNDRY COSTS**

No more cleaning, reduces washing powder by 50%.



#### PROTECTS YOUR BOILER **FROM DAMAGES**

Prevents permanent limescale damage.





### THE FACTS:

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW





### HOW DOES A WATER SOFTENER WORK?

A water softener works by filtering out hard minerals from your main water supply. It contains an internal resin, which extracts hard minerals. Once saturated, the system uses sodium ions to clean & refresh itself.

#### WHAT SIZE SOFTENER DO I NEED?

This mainly depends on: how many bathrooms you have/ number of occupants. Homes with 2+ bathrooms require a twin tank system. Homes with 4+ bathrooms, require a larger water softener.

## SINGLE TANK VS TWIN TANK: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Twin tank softeners are generally more efficient, with higher flow rates. They provide a 24/7 soft water supply. Single tank systems in some cases can be smaller in size with lower flow rates. They will stop producing soft water as they regenerate.

#### ELECTRIC VS NON-ELECTRIC: WHICH IS BEST?

Electric water softeners tend to be single tank systems. They require electricity at all times & so will effect your electricity & energy use. Most electric systems require you to set a timer for regeneration - this is not always automated or based on water usage.

#### WHAT TO LOOK FOR

#### THE TYPE OF SYSTEM:

Check if the **system is twin tank or single tank**? Twin tank systems are suited for homes with 2+ bathrooms. They are generally more expensive - but are generally more efficient and well geared for the family home.

You should also consider if you need a **HE or HF system**. A HF is required for high flow and combi boilers. A HE can be suitable for low flow gravity fed systems.

#### THE FLOW RATE:

The flow rate is the maximum amount of water that can pass through the system at one time. It should be **40-60L/min** for a standard home. A softener with a low flow rate, may result in a drop in the flow of water to kitchen & bathroom outlets.

#### THE EFFICIENCY, SALT & WATER USAGE:

Buying an efficient system is important. The efficieny determines the overall running costs. You should look at and compare: the regeneration time, salt efficiency and how much salt and water the system uses per regeneration.

#### THE WARRANTY:

Price and warranty are key indicators of quality. Look out for cheap systems and always look for a good warranty. Buying a low cost machine for under £1,000 - may actually cost you more in the long run, to run or replace when damaged.

#### A THRID PARTY CERTIFICATION:

Any system you purchase should have a thrid party **WRAS** certification.



#### THE BEST BRANDS

There are many brands of water softener on the market - the most popular and best brand in the UK is **Harvey Water Softeners**. Harvey innovated the twin tank design, offering the most up to date technology & non-electric systems on the market today.

Harvey systems can be found online but are sold exclusively through a dealer network. This means only specific distributors are able to sell certain models.

#### WHY ARE THEY THE BEST?

Harvey models provide the best quality systems that can last **10-20 years**. Their softeners hold third party certification, to guarantee reliability and durability. Most of their systems also come with **10-year warranties**.

They can cost a little more initially, but will last 2x as long as softeners produced by other brands. They also have the lowest running costs - meaning over the years they pay for themselves.

#### HARVEY VS KINETICO

Many people struggle to choose between Harvey & Kinetico. The Harvey TwinTec S4 has the best specification of any domestic softener and when compared to the Kinetico Premier Compact. Both warranties are the same but Kinetico systems start from £1695 VS Harvey which are more cost effective at £1149.



#### THE BEST MODELS

#### FOR 2 & 3 BATHROOM HOMES

#### THE HARVEY TWINTEC S4

£1149.99

SHOP NOW

- Non-electric & twin tank design.
- The most efficient system on the market, low salt & water consumption.
- High flow rate of 56L/min no pressure drop.
- 10-year warranty.





#### THE TWINTEC COBALT

£1595

SHOP NOW

- Non-electric & Twin tank design.
- Very efficient system, low salt & water consumption.
- High flow rate of 56L/min no pressure drop.
- 10-year warranty.
- Renowned for quality & lasting a lifetime.





#### FOR 4+ BATHROOM HOMES

#### **HARVEY TWINTEC XL2**

£1795

**SHOP NOW** 

- Mega high flow rate of 80L/min.
- Suitable for 4-8 bathrooms.
- Non-electric & twin tank design.
- · High salt storage holds 6 blocks.
- 10-year warranty.





#### **KINETICO PREMIER PLUS**

£1795

SHOP NOW

- Non-electric & Twin tank design.
- Very efficient system, low salt & water consumption.
- High flow rate suitable for 4 bathroom homes.
- 10-year warranty.
- Renowned for quality.

#### THE HARVEY BIG BLUE

£1895

**SHOP NOW** 

- · High flow rate of 80L/min.
- Non-electric & twin tank design.
- · Tablet salt efficient salt consumption.
- Suitable for very large homes & small businesses.
- 10-year warranty.



SAVE £100 OFF
Use Code: NEWS

SHOP NOW

## WHAT ARE THE RUNNING COSTS?

Unlike electric systems, non-electric water softeners do not require electricity - therefore, no additional energy costs are required. The main running costs can be attributed to salt - which all water softeners needs to work. A constant top up & supply of salt is required in order for the softener to regenerate.

That's why it is important to check the salt efficiency and water consumption of any system. A high salt usage (g/kg) and low salt efficiency, will result in replacing the salt more often - which will cost you more in the long run.

An efficient system will use **300-400g** of salt and **17-23L** of water per regeneration. However, this can also be affected by the size of the water softener & its capacity. E.g a larger water softener (designed for 5-6+ bathrooms) may have a big capacity - meaning more salt may be required, but it will regenerate less often than a standard size system.

#### **HOW MUCH IS SALT?**

Standard block salt should come in packs of 2 x 4kg blocks. These packs are priced between £7-£8. Tablet salt, usually comes in 10-25kg bags and is around £20 per bag.

The amount of salt your system uses also depends on how much water you use and the number of occupants. As a rule of thumb, salt usage is generally 1 block per person, per month.

## IS A WATER SOFTENER WORTH THE COST?

Initially, a water softener can seem like an expensive home investment. But did you know - a good quality system can last 10-20 years? And soft water can actually **save** over **£400 per year**!

Soft water can result in savings on household bills by:

- Reducing energy bills by 20-64%.
- **Increasing the lifetime of home appliances** by up to 50%, preventing costly damages & replacements.
- Reducing time & money spent cleaning buy less cleaning products & forget expensive descalers.
- Soft water requires **50% less washing powder.**
- Soft water requires **less shampoo & showering products.**
- Results in you **using less water overall** in the home.

With all the additional soft water benefits, a good quality water softener pays for itself.



# NEED MORE HELP?

Call us now on **02031486773** for free advice & exclusive discount codes. Get the best price online, from the UK's biggest online water softener supplier.

Visit us online at:

www.newatersofteners.co.uk

