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RO Storage Tank Inflation Instructions

Understand how a RO storage tank work:

- The RO storage tank is pressurized with air. When dispensing water, the air helps squeeze out the water stored inside the tank.
- However, overtime, the air inside the tank will escape and deplete, causing deflation, thus the water in the tank will not have the sufficient pressure to be squeezed out. When this occurs, water pressure/flowrate at the dispenser drops significantly, taking much longer to fill a cup of water.
- To maintain optimal performance, tank air pressure should be checked and adjusted every 2-3 years.

Check if tank needs to be replaced:

1. First, check if the tank is even good.
2. There is a small cap on the side of the lower bottom portion of the tank.
3. When cap is untwisted, a pump needle (Schrader Valve) resembling what is on a car tire is exposed.
4. Take something sharp, like a pen or key, and press on the spring needle itself to see what comes out.
5. If ***nothing*** or ***air*** comes out, the tank is still good, and it is inflate-able.
6. If ***water*** comes out, the tank is **NOT** inflate-able. It needs to be replaced and is considered unsalvageable because the internal bladder has ruptured.

If tank is inflate-able, follow the below steps:

1. So, if ***nothing*** or ***air*** came out, the tank can be inflated (inject air into the storage tank).
2. Prepare an air pump (handheld bike pump or electric-powered pump) and air pressure gauge (if have one).
3. Turn on the dispenser on the counter and let water drained into the sink or gather with containers.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Lock the pump to the valve of the tank. Understand how/make sure the lock mechanism works. If it's not locked, air will escape and WILL NOT be injected into the tank, thus not inflating it.
5. For manual air pump: pump about 10 times or until water flow increases at the dispenser then STOP.
6. For electric air pump: pump until water flow increases at the dispenser then STOP.
7. After flow from the dispenser decreases, pump another 10 times with manual pump or with electric pump until water flow increases from the dispenser, then STOP.
8. Again, after the flow from the dispenser decreases, pump more air into the tank like previous steps.
9. Repeat this process until all water in the tank is emptied out.
10. To check if water inside the tank is emptied out, pick up the tank and it will feel relatively light (around 6.5 lbs).
11. After tank is emptied, check if air pressure (if have air pressure gauge) reads 7-10 psi.
12. Disconnect the pump and turn off the dispenser and wait 2 hours for the tank to be filled with water again.
13. After 2 hours, the tank should be full and heavy (around 32 lb).
14. Dispense water and pressure/flowrate should be restored.

FAQ:

I followed all the above steps, but tank did not refill after 2 hours, why? Over-inflation could cause this. Make sure when tank is empty, air pressure reads between 7-10psi. Let out some air if pressure is over 10 psi. Over-inflation will cause water unable to enter and be stored inside the tank.

After 2 hours, my tank is heavy, but the flowrate from the dispenser is still slow, why? There could be a couple of reasons why this occurred: First, deflation due to air never injected into the tank because the locking mechanism on the pump leaked during inflation process (check air pressure at 7 10psi when tank is empty). So, inflate more. Second, the tank's bladder has ruptured and the tank needs to be replaced.