

## Hydrocollator Cleaning Instructions

The Hydrocollator Heating Unit is made of high quality stainless steel that, with proper care and maintenance, could easily last a lifetime. Improper care could allow the stainless steel to wear prematurely.

Follow these simple steps to ensure that the Hydrocollator Heating Unit remains in excellent condition.

1. Excessive chlorine can be detrimental to the stainless steel in the Hydrocollator Heating Unit. No bleach or any cleaner with high chlorine content should be used under any circumstance.
2. Clean regularly for optimal service and operation. NOTE: Failure to maintain the unit (including regular cleaning) will void the warranty.
3. Fill daily with water. Water is constantly lost during operation due to evaporation.
4. Chlorine in regular tap water may be present in high enough concentrations to damage the unit. If you suspect high levels of chlorine are detected in the Hydrocollator Heating Unit, the addition of a dechlorinator is recommended.
5. Certain additives (such as herbal teas, essential oils, etc.) will damage the HotPacs and components of the heating unit, including the stainless steel. The Hydrocollator Heating Unit was designed to heat water and HotPacs only. The addition of any such foreign substance (except dechlorinator) to the water in the unit will void the warranty.
6. Inspect heating element for pitting and other visible damage during regular cleaning intervals.
7. Inspect power cord for wear, fraying, and other visible damage during regular cleaning intervals.

### To avoid potential for rusting:

1. **Do not** use bleach or cleaners with high chlorine content.
2. **Do not** use paper clips, safety pins, staples, coat hangers, etc., in, on, or near the unit.
3. **Do not** clean the unit with carbon steel wool or a carbon steel brush. Use only soft cloth, Scotch Brite™ type scouring pads of green, blue, or white abrasiveness, or stainless steel wool if absolutely necessary.
4. **Do not** use abrasive cleaners which tend to disturb the grain in the finish, especially on the exterior of the unit. For exterior cleaning, use only non-abrasive stainless steel polish.
5. Water level is critical: Add water daily, if necessary, to keep unit full.
6. Regularly clean and drain the tank (every two weeks). Failure to properly maintain the unit will cause premature wear and will void the warranty.
7. Remove all deposits from interior surfaces and parts. The deposits are concentrations of minerals that will allow rusting to begin. If allowed to accumulate on the heating element, these deposits will lower the efficiency of the element and increase the power consumption of the unit. Exercise extreme care if cleaning the element or thermostat(s). These components can be easily damaged without proper care or caution.
8. If you suspect that you have “hard water”, you may need to change the water and clean the unit more frequently. Salt deposits are an indication of hard water that will eventually cause rust.

### **Cleaning Tips**

1. The interior of the unit should be cleaned, at least every two weeks, using a low abrasive bathroom cleaner with a soft cloth or green, blue, or white Scotch-Brite™ type scouring pad. Stainless steel wool may be used if necessary, but not regular carbon steel wool. Check for low or no chlorine content in your cleaner and make sure that the residue is thoroughly rinsed away with water.
2. A strong solution of vinegar and water (50/50) may be used to dissolve away deposits, which then must be thoroughly rinsed away. Results may vary.
3. For exterior cleaning, use stainless steel polish and a soft cloth only. Numerous industrial stainless steel polishes are available from various supply companies. Use of any cleaner except stainless steel polish on the exterior of the unit is not recommended. Abrasive cleaners and scouring pads can damage the finish of the unit.

### **Care of HotPacs**

Always return the Hydrocollator HotPac to the hot water of the heating unit after each treatment. There it is heated, kept clean, and ready for immediate use. The HotPac may be boiled; however, this hastens the deterioration of the pack. The pack may also be cleaned by scrubbing the pack with soap and water. The simplified method of keeping the pack clean is to keep it immersed in water.

The Hydrocollator HotPac, under constant daily use, should have a useful life of at least one year. When the pack begins to wear out, the filler oozes and leaks through the fabric of the cloth; sections of the pack appear to be loose and empty and will not retain heat properly. The pack should be replaced when it reaches this state.

Original replacement Hydrocollator HotPacs may be ordered from an authorized Chattanooga **Group dealer**.

**NOTE:** If HotPacs are to be stored for extended periods, they may be placed - while wet - in plastic bags and stored in a freezer.