



Scrub the Tubs: A Good, Clean Pedicure

The Environmental Protection Agency has created specific, recommended guidelines for the cleaning and disinfecting of pedicure foot spas.

The Minnesota Board of Cosmetologist Examiners urges individual licensees working in licensed manicurist and cosmetology salons to follow these guidelines and procedures in order to protect the public from the possible spread of communicable disease. Outbreaks of skin and other conditions from improper sanitation have been observed in other states.

The guidelines provided here are offered in coordination with MN state statutes and rules concerning the practice of cosmetology by licensed individuals.

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Step by step instructions for disinfecting pedicure foot spa equipment

Customer Precautions

1. *Check the condition of the client's feet and legs:* If open sores or skin wounds are present (including insect bites, scratches, scabbed-over wounds, or any condition that weakens the skin barrier), explain to the client why they should not use the foot bath.
2. *Complete pedicure or wax after the foot bath soak:* Any procedure that risks damage to a client's skin should not be done before soaking feet in the foot spa basin.

After Each Client

(This can take place any time after the client's feet are out of the footbath, while feet are massaged, toes are painted, or other opportunities)

1. *Drain* the water from the foot spa basin or bowl and remove any visible debris.
2. *Clean* the surfaces of the foot spa with soap or detergent, rinse with clean water, and drain.
3. *After cleaning, disinfect** the surfaces with an *EPA-registered hospital disinfectant* according to the manufacturer's directions on the label. Surfaces must remain wet with the disinfectant for *10 minutes or the time stated on the label*, which may be shorter.

*** For whirlpool foot spas, air-jet basins, "pipe-less" foot spas, and other circulating spas:** It is best to disinfect by filling the basin with clean water, adding the appropriate amount of liquid disinfectant, and turning the unit on to *circulate* the disinfectant for the entire contact time.

4. After disinfection, *drain and rinse* with clean water.

Nightly

For whirlpool foot spas, air-jet basins, "pipe-less" foot spas, and other circulating spas:

1. *Remove* the filter screen, inlet jets, and all other removable parts from the basin and clean out any debris trapped behind or in them.
2. Using a brush, *scrub* these parts with soap or disinfectant (following cleaning directions).
3. *Rinse* the removed parts with clean water and place them back into the basin apparatus.
4. *Fill* the basin with clean water and add an *EPA-registered hospital disinfectant*, following label directions. Turn the unit on and *circulate* the system with the liquid for 10 minutes, or the label-indicated time if different. (The whirlpool mechanism of the tub must be operating for the entire disinfection period so the piping and internal components that contain hidden bacteria are disinfected.)
5. *After disinfection, drain, rinse, and air dry.*

For simple basins (no circulation):

1. *Drain* the basin and remove any visible debris.
2. *Scrub* the bowl with a clean brush and soap or disinfectant (following cleaning directions). *Rinse and drain.*
3. *Disinfect* basin surfaces with and *EPA-registered hospital disinfectant*, following manufacturer's instructions. Surfaces must remain wet with the disinfectant for 10 minutes or the contact time stated on the label.
4. *Drain* the basin, *rinse* with clean water, and let air-dry.

EZ DISINFECTANT

Disinfectant — Bactericide — Virucide — Fungicide
For Hospital, Institutional and Home Use

Active Ingredients:

Compound A 15.0%
Compound B 2.5%
Compound C 2.5%

Inert Ingredients 80.0%

TOTAL 100.0%

This product has been approved effective against the following organisms:

Staphylococcus aureus
Salmonella enterica
Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Trichophyton metagrophytes
HIV-1

EPA Reg No. XXXX-XX

Hospitals, Nursing Home Facilities, other health care establishments, schools, veterinary clinics, office buildings, retail establishments, industrial facilities

Choosing an EPA approved Disinfectant

The label should clearly state that the product is a hospital or medical disinfectant. It may also list the following organisms (as shown on the example at left):

Staphylococcus aureus

Salmonella enterica (formerly S. choleraesuis)

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

The product label should clearly identify an EPA Registration Number.

The label will also specify use sites that are health care related.

Important Additional Measures

Read all labels and instruction manuals: Always follow label directions for disinfectant products, and consult operating manuals for foot spa basins. Care should be taken to use appropriate doses of products to prevent damage to foot spas.

Know the condition of your equipment: If your whirlpool foot spa has not been regularly cleaned and disinfected, you may need to do more than just the maintenance steps listed above to remove bacterial buildup from the system. Consult the foot spa manufacturer for further information.

General information foot spa health concerns can be found online in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study on Mycobacteria in Nail Salon Foot baths (<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol11no04/04-0936.htm>)

Visit the Board of Cosmetologist Examiners website for regularly updated information, rule changes and recommendations for licensees at www.bceboard.state.mn.us.



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