

10 Easy Steps to Winterize Your Hot Tub

We're all for enjoying your hot tub year-round. There's something magical about soaking in warm, bubbling water while snow falls around you. But if you've decided to close it down for the winter, it's important to do it the right way. Winterizing your hot tub properly protects it from freezing temperatures, cracked plumbing, and costly repairs later on.

Here's how to shut things down safely and efficiently in 10 simple steps.

1. Cut the Power

Start by turning off the power at the breaker. This is non-negotiable. You never want to work on your hot tub with any electrical power running. Water and electricity are not friends, and safety should always come first.

2. Drain the Water

Next, connect a garden hose to the drain spout located in the equipment access area. Open the valve and let the water flow out. To remove the leftover water that doesn't make it out through the hose, use a sump pump to finish the job.

3. Drain the Air Blower (If You Have One)

If your hot tub has an air blower, it needs to be cleared. Put the cover on, plug the spa back in, and turn it on. Let the blower run for about a minute. This will push out any trapped water. Then, unplug the unit again to prep for the rest of the process.

4. Loosen the Heater and Pump Unions

Open the access panel and find the unions that connect the heater and pumps. Loosen them gently so any water still hanging out in the lines can drain. If you have more than one pump, repeat this process for each one.

5. Remove Pump Drain Plugs

Locate the lowest drain plug on the front of each pump and remove it. This helps release any lingering water that didn't drain earlier.

6. Use a Wet Vac to Clear the Lines

Here's where things get serious. You want to be sure no water is left behind in your plumbing lines. Insert a wet vac into every jet, drain, suction, filter cavity, and any other opening. Hold it in place for about 10 to 15 seconds each time. This step is what protects your hot tub from frozen lines and major damage.

7. Clean the Filter Cartridges

Don't leave dirty filters sitting over the winter. Pull them out, rinse them thoroughly with a garden hose, and give them a good scrub using a filter cleaner. A clean start in the spring will be much easier if you handle it now.

8. Reinstall Drain Plugs and Tighten Unions

Once everything is dry, put the pump drain plugs back in place. Tighten all unions and double-check that your gate valves are fully open. You want everything sealed and secure before moving forward.

9. Add Antifreeze to the Lines

Pour hot tub antifreeze into each pump and into the filter cavity. About one gallon each should do the trick. This step helps protect any little bit of water that might still be sitting in the lines from freezing and cracking the pipes.

Put your access panel back on once this is complete.

10. Cover It Up

The final step is simple. Close the hot tub cover tightly and secure it. That's it. You're done. Now all you have to do is wait for spring to return.

Need Help? Just Ask.

Winterizing a hot tub isn't complicated, but it's important to do it right. If you're not sure about something or want to make sure it's handled professionally, don't hesitate to reach out. We're happy to walk you through the process or send someone to take care of it for you.