

Spa Pillows ruined again!

My spa pillows have a thin plastic cover that get small bubbles on them that then pop. I've had two full sets of pillows in three years. Is there any place I could get pillows that would last longer?

Spa Pillows take a lot of abuse due to the climate that they are always exposed to. Keeping your chemicals well balanced, especially ph, is important to prolong the life. [Spa pillows](#) that aren't dipped in vinyl do last longer. You should also periodically clean them with soap and water. Some people I know just remove them after they use the spa, but that's a lot of work.

Working with Flexible PVC

I have never used flexible pipe before. With rigid pipes I am used to being able to fit all parts together to check sizes etc before cementing them permanently. With the flexible PVC I find I am only able to partially insert the pipe. Am I doing something wrong?

It does not sound like you are doing anything incorrect. Flex PVC will be a tight fit and since it has a rubber consistency and ribs as opposed to a hard plastic, dry fit is a little difficult. Once you apply the glue to the flex pipe and inside the fittings or jet body, it should go right in. It's also a little easier to work with, if the pipe section is a little longer than needed, it will – flex, and still fit well. If it's too short however...

Replacing Jacuzzi Waterfall Light

I am trying to replace the light in my Jacuzzi J325 Rainbow Waterfall. I can't figure out how to disassemble the waterfall to get to the light. Can anyone explain to me how to take the waterfall apart?

In order to get to the Jacuzzi light, you need to remove the waterfall assembly. To do this you first you need to remove the wood or synthetic skirt just under the waterfall. They should not have foam filled the area where the waterfall is plumbed allowing you to access it but there may be some that may need to be removed. You would then need to cut the plumbing, unscrew the nuts that hold the waterfall onto the spa. You should now be able to remove the waterfall assembly. Depending on when your spa was manufactured the light was either glued into place or it snaps in so it can be removed. If the light was glued in then you would need to replace the whole assembly.

Does High Altitude Affect Ozone Operation?

Tests have been run simulating altitudes up to 50,000 feet with no effect on the operation of the ozone generator. There may however, be a small reduction in ozone output (maybe 5-10%) at the very high elevations due to less available oxygen.

Winterize my Spa

No one in my family uses the hot tub in the winter here in NJ. I want to shut it down to save on electricity over the winter (my husband is out of work). If I drain the hot tub, do I need to blow out the lines or do anything to winterize it or do I just drain the water and turn the electricity off?

Yes, you need to blow out all the lines to prevent the plumbing from cracking. Also, you should drain your spa pump or pumps if you have more than one. There should be a drain plug on the pump that you can remove to drain. If you have a heater that has a large union nut connecting to the pump you can also loosen that up to drain whatever water that remained in the spa heater and plumbing lines that go out to the tub. Tighten that back up when finished, and to prevent losing the pump plugs I would put those back in place after draining. If you have bench or floor air jets, run the blower and use a towel to sop up the water. You can use a large wet/dry vac to blow out the lines. Getting your lines blown out dry also helps prevent biofilm formation, especially if the spa sits for extended periods, and especially when outside temperatures rise above 70°. Cover your spa cover with a tarp, or a sheet of plywood if you expect heavy snow.

Spa Pump Cycles on/off

Hot tub is older Cal Spa Eliminator series. Hot tub turns on and runs fine and heats for a few minutes then shuts down. After a few minutes' rest, it starts itself back up and runs fine again for a few minutes then repeats the cycle. I had a technician out and he doesn't know the answer. The winter freeze protection switch was on and I switched it back to the timer position. Doesn't make any difference. Water flow is good while running. The motor case does not seem to be too hot.

I assume that the tech checked all connections, checked incoming voltage, and also that the breaker did not trip, the GFCI does not trip, but the pump comes back on all by itself, with no error codes or anything out of ordinary? Check the air flow for the pump, make sure it has adequate air flow to run cool and not overheat. Also check the air vents on the motor itself, to be sure they are not clogged up with debris. Motors have a thermal overload switch that when overheated, shuts off the motor for about 15 minutes or until the switch cools enough to close again. It's located usually at the top center of the rear of the motor. If air flow is good, and vents are clean, but it continues, it could be an internal short on the windings causing the motor to overheat. Time for a new motor in that case.

Tub Circulation Pump Quits

I bought a new circulation pump, installed it and it worked fine for about 36 hours. It then quit working and overheated and will now not run. The main jet pump and the heater appear to work. What do you think is the problem?

First thing you need to verify is that you are getting proper voltage from the circuit board to the pump. If the pump operates on 230V that needs to be verified that is what you are getting at the back of the motor, give or take 10 volts (220-240). Second thing is, does the motor shut off without error code, and

then turn on again by itself? In this case check air flow, as motors have a thermal overload switch (overheated switch) in the rear of the motor. You say it now won't run at all, check voltage and connections.

Hot Tub Pressure Switch

I have a 2000 Z255 Jacuzzi hot tub. The pressure switch is leaking. How do I replace the switch? Is there a replacement for the Jacuzzi R961000 switch?

Yes, you can replace. First turn off the breaker to the spa so there will be no power going to it. Close slice valves if you have them going to the heater so you don't need to drain the water down. Remove the wires to the pressure switch and unscrew it from the spa heater manifold. Install new switch by threading back into heater manifold. You can use a little Teflon tape on the threads. Reconnect the wires to switch and open slice valves, or fill back up if you do not have shut off valves. The 3902 universal pressure switch will fit your spa.

Broken Spa Light Cover

How do I remove the light cover components to replace them? The outer edge of the clear cover that is on the inside of the hot tub has broken off and is leaking a little. The rest of the fixture is securely glued in. Any suggestions on how to remove it so it can be replaced?

Spa light assemblies will have a through wall fitting which is the clear cover that is cracked. This wall fitting goes through the wall of the spa and is attached on the back with a PVC nut. There is an oring in between as well. On the back of the wall fitting there may be a reflector that holds the bulb and wires in place. That usually can be pulled off or you may need to twist to remove. If you can get to the nut from there you unthread and then remove the wall fitting. On some assemblies you cannot reach this nut and the wall fitting would need to be unthreaded from inside spa. Some will have notches in the wall fitting for a tool you use to unthread, or use two appropriately sized rods to turn, counter clockwise.

Spa Air Lock or Control Board?

We have a Coleman Spa. The Sensors have been checked, work fine. My topside control board says it was the sensor, but it is fine. I would press button and you would hear a click then a hum and then no sound. The spa motor would not do anything. I put a hose into filter housing to get air out, then it worked fine for a while, then stopped running again. A local company said I may have had a power surge and hurt the spa control inside the main box.

If it is an air lock you can try loosening pump union just slightly to allow a small amount of water to trickle out. If air is in the system you should here it coming out while union is loosened. If that does not repair it and pump is still doing same thing you would need to verify that the circuit board is supplying the pump power after topside panel button has been pushed to turn it on, and since you hear a click you know the topside is sending the signal to the board to turn on the pump so that is not the issue. If the

board is supplying the motor the correct voltage and motor hums but will not start it sounds like the pump motor is the issue. Try to spin the shaft by removing the back cover, to make sure it's not bound up. Inspect the capacitor (black cylinder) for cracks or bulging. Often, a humming sound is a bad capacitor, but it usually trips the breaker after 10-15 seconds.

Water Coming out Air Intakes

I replaced all the tubing in my old hot tub reusing all 4 old jets. When running the pump on low or high and opening the air valve, I am getting water back flowing out of the air valve instead of the air being taken in and coming out of the jets like normal. Any ideas about what would cause the back flow?

If you have adjustable jets make sure they are fully open. If they are not adjustable then it could be something clogging the jet venturi such as debris. If that is not the case make sure you have no kinks in any of your plumbing lines coming from the water manifold. Oh and make sure there is a venturi on the air line, which is kind of like a funnel, pulling air thru the smaller diameter opening, as the water rushes past.

Drain Screen Sucked into Spa Pump

A small mesh intake cover (cloth) was sucked into the filter intake during a cleaning cycle. The filters were removed at the time. Now the pump is sounding labored for obvious reasons. Can anyone tell me what to do next? Is it in one end end of the pumps? Can I remove it without draining?

Unfortunately, it does sound like it got sucked up into the pump. It should be the main two speed pump, and the water enters in the front center of the pump. If you have isolation valves, close them otherwise you'd need to drain the spa, open the pump and remove the suction cover sock. You may be able to get to it by just removing the pump union and rotating the impeller to see if it can be pulled out that way without removing the front volute on the pump. Once you get it out you should be fine, there should be no damage to the pump.

Overflowed my Spa

I have an older spa with a newly replaced (within the past year) circuit board. The booklet with the circuit board says Great Lakes Series 520 E control manual. When adding water to my spa, I accidentally overflowed it. Now everything is dead. After checking Google, I looked for a reset switch but could not locate one.

That happens – first thing to check is the breakers, the circuit breaker and the GFCI Reset button. Then look into the control panel and find the circuit board. Near the board, or on the board you will find some fuses, usually 20-amp and 30-amp fuses. You may be able to visibly see them as fried, or you can test them for continuity, or just replace them. You can order online or find at locally at auto/hardware store.