



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

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Foot Spa and Foot Basin Sanitation Requirements

Protect Your Customers – Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation rules require whirlpool foot spas and non-whirlpool foot basins to be cleaned and disinfected after use upon each client to prevent the spread of disease to the public.

Public health problems can originate in cosmetology salons, specialty nail salons or barbershops. Many of these health problems are caused by unsanitary conditions related to manicure or pedicure services performed in those shops. Customers can be infected as a result of having their fingers, hands, legs or feet immersed in solutions that contain bacteria.

A number of salons and shops use whirlpool foot spas (foot spas) or non-whirlpool foot basins (foot basins) as part of the pedicure process. These can harbor bacteria if not properly cleaned and disinfected between customers. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation rules require foot spas and foot basins to be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis to prevent the spread of diseases to the public.

The **foot spa** sanitation rule requirements essentially require that:

- Foot spas must be drained, cleaned, disinfected and wiped dry after use on each client.
- Foot spas must be drained, cleaned and disinfected at the close of each day.
- Foot spas must be drained, flushed, cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the sanitation requirements at least once every two weeks.
- A written record (log) must be kept for each foot spa, documenting compliance with the above referenced sanitation requirements, and this record must be retained for at least 60 days.

The **foot basin** sanitation rule requirements essentially require that:

- Foot basins must be drained, cleaned, disinfected and wiped dry after use on each client.
- A written record (log) must be kept for each foot basin, documenting compliance with the above referenced sanitation requirements, and this record must be retained for at least 60 days.

It is important to utilize the minimum or greater concentration of EPA-registered disinfectant and to use the minimum or greater cleaning/exposure times when cleaning and disinfecting foot spas and foot basins.

Your compliance with the foot spa and foot basin sanitation requirements will facilitate and enhance efforts to protect your customers' health. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation is dedicated to achieving compliance with these footspa sanitation requirements.

The complete foot spa sanitation rules for barbers and foot spa and foot basin sanitation rules for cosmetologists are printed in full on the following two pages.

Rules Relating to Cleaning and Disinfecting of Whirlpool Foot Spas, Foot Basins, and Spa Liners

Barbers - Rule 82.108 TAC

(Effective February 1, 2012)

Health and Safety Standards - Footspas

- (a) As used in this section, “whirlpool footspa” or “spa” is defined as any basin using circulating water, either in a self-contained unit or in a unit that is connected to other plumbing in the establishment. The cleaning and disinfecting procedures for foot spas in this section shall be followed for units connected to an establishment’s plumbing, and, to every extent possible, self-contained units.
- (b) Before use upon each patron, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following manner.
- (1) All water shall be drained and all debris shall be removed from the spa basin.
 - (2) The spa basin must be cleaned with soap or detergent and water.
 - (3) The spa basin must be disinfected with an EPA registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (4) The spa basin must be wiped dry with a clean towel.
- (c) At the end of each day, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following manner:
- (1) The screen shall be removed, all debris trapped behind the screen shall be removed, and the screen and the inlet shall be washed with soap and water or detergent and water.
 - (2) Before replacing the screen, one of the following procedures shall be performed:
 - (A) The screen shall be washed with a chlorine bleach solution of one-third (1/3) cup of 5.25% chlorine bleach to one (1) gallon of water; or
 - (B) The screen shall be totally immersed in an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (3) The spa system shall be flushed with soap and warm water for at least ten (10) minutes, after which the spa shall be rinsed and drained.
- (d) Every other week (bi-weekly), after cleaning and disinfecting as provided in this subsection, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following manner:
- (1) The spa basin shall be filled completely with water and one-third (1/3) cup of 5.25% chlorine bleach for each one (1) gallon of water.
 - (2) The spa system shall be flushed with the chlorine bleach and water solution or an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity according to the manufacturer’s instructions for 5 to 10 minutes and allowed to sit for 6 to 10 hours.
 - (3) The spa system shall be drained and flushed with water before use upon a patron.
- (e) A record shall be made on a form prescribe by the Department of the date and time of each cleaning and disinfecting indicating whether the cleaning was a daily or bi-weekly cleaning. This record shall be made at or near the time of cleaning and disinfecting. The record shall indicate if a spa was not used at all during any individual work day. Cleaning and disinfecting records shall be made available upon request by either a patron or a Department representative.
- (f) A footspa for which documentation is not maintained in accordance with this rule must be removed from service and not used again until it has been cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the requirements of this rule and the records have been properly updated.
- (g) Footspa chairs shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to providing service to each client. The chair shall be made of or covered in a non-porous material that can be disinfected.

Cosmetologists - Rule 83.108 TAC
(Effective February 17, 2012)

Health and Safety Standards – Footspas, Foot Basins, and Spa Liners

- (a) As used in this section, “whirlpool foot spa” or “spa” is defined as any basin using circulating water, either in a self-contained unit or in a unit that is connected to other plumbing in the establishment.
- (b) After use upon each client, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following sequential manner.
- (1) All water shall be drained and all debris shall be removed from the spa basin.
 - (2) The spa basin must be cleaned with soap or detergent and water.
 - (3) The spa basin must be disinfected with an EPA registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (4) The spa basin must be wiped dry with a clean towel.
- (c) At the end of each day, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following sequential manner.
- (1) The screen and any other removable parts shall be removed, all debris trapped behind the screen shall be removed, and the screen and the inlet and any other removable parts shall be washed with soap or detergent and water.
 - (2) Before replacing the screen, one of the following procedures shall be performed:
 - (A) The screen and any other removable parts shall be washed with a chlorine bleach solution of one-third (1/3) cup of 5.25% chlorine bleach to one (1) gallon of water; or
 - (B) The screen and any other removable parts shall be totally immersed in an EPA registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (3) The spa system shall be flushed with soap and warm water for at least ten (10) minutes, after which the spa shall be rinsed and drained.
- (d) Every other week (bi-weekly), after cleaning and disinfecting as provided in this subsection, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following sequential manner.
- (1) The spa basin shall be filled completely with water and one-third (1/3) cup of 5.25% bleach for each one (1) gallon of water.
 - (2) The spa system shall be flushed for 5 to 10 minutes with the chlorine bleach and water solution or an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions and allowed to sit for 6 to 10 hours.
 - (3) The spa system shall be drained and flushed with water before use upon a client.
- (e) For whirlpool foot spas, a record shall be made on a department-approved form of the date and time of each cleaning and disinfecting indicating whether the cleaning was a daily or bi-weekly cleaning. This record shall be made at or near the time of cleaning and disinfecting and shall indicate if a spa was not used during any individual work day.
- (f) As used in this section “non-whirlpool foot basin” or “foot basin” is defined as any basin, tub, footbath, sink or bowl that holds non-circulating water. After use upon each client, each non-whirlpool foot basin shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following sequential manner.
- (1) All water shall be drained and all debris shall be removed from the foot basin.
 - (2) The inside surfaces of the foot basin must be scrubbed and cleaned of all visible residues with a clean brush, soap or detergent, and water.
 - (3) The foot basin must be disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (4) The foot basin must be rinsed, emptied and wiped dry with a clean towel.
- (g) For non-whirlpool foot basins, a record shall be made on a department-approved form of the date and time of each cleaning and disinfecting. The record shall be made at or near the time of cleaning and disinfecting and shall indicate if the foot basin was not used during any individual work day.
- (h) As used in this section “disposable spa liner” or “spa liner” is defined as a plastic liner designed to be placed within a whirlpool foot spa and discarded after a single use and which is equipped with a single “non-adhesive” heat-sealed drain tab which, when pulled, allows water to empty directly into a whirlpool foot spa drain.
- (i) As used in this section “portable whirlpool jet” or “jet” is defined as a magnetic or other circulating device, designed to be placed within a whirlpool foot spa basin in order to circulate water in spas in which disposable spa liners are used.
- (j) Disposable spa liners and portable whirlpool jets may be used in providing spa services to clients. When used, the following sequential procedures shall be performed.
- (1) After use upon a client, the heat sealed tab shall be pulled allowing the water to empty directly into the cosmetology establishment’s plumbing system.
 - (2) The spa liner shall be discarded in a covered trash receptacle.
 - (3) The portable whirlpool jet shall be completely immersed for 5 to 10 minutes in an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, and virucidal activity which must be used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
 - (4) The jet shall be rinsed with warm water and drained.
 - (5) All surfaces of the spa basin and foot rest shall be wiped with EPA-registered disinfectant wipes.
- (k) For disposable spa liners and whirlpool jets, a record shall be made on a department-approved form indicating the time and date when the spa liner was used and discarded and when the jet was used and disinfected and shall indicate if the jet was not used during a work day.
- (l) Cleaning and disinfecting records for foot spas, foot basins, spa liners and jets shall be made available upon request by either a client or a department representative and shall be retained for inspection for at least 60 days.
- (m) A foot spa, foot basin or jet for which documentation is not maintained in accordance with this section must be removed from service and not used again until it has been cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the requirements of this section and the records have been properly updated. When a foot spa, foot basin or jet is removed from service for any reason, the record must indicate the date of removal from service.
- (n) Foot spa and foot basin chairs shall be cleaned and disinfected after service is provided to each client. The chair shall be made of or covered in a non-porous material that can be disinfected.