WATER MAINTENANCE

How to maintain a Floatation Tank? Floatation Tanks, also known as Isolation Tanks, Sensory Deprivation Tanks or Chambers, float pods, cabins, suites or rooms, are designed to separate you from the distractions and stimuli of the real world and take you to a place of quiet, dark, relaxing isolation, as you float buoyantly upon a pleasurable neutral body-temperature liquid crystal. Instead of ordinary water, a concentrated solution of roughly 33% of Medical Grade Magnesium Sulfates or “Epsom” salt. The requirements for proper sanitation and maintenance are in a state of frequent change or revision as there is no over-arching regulations. Requirements vary, by location, number of tanks, and the intended use, and should be researched constantly for the latest applicable regulations, LOCALLY. The NSF, APSP and the Floatation Tank Association are some of the resources to check.

► How To Test FIltration, In A Floatation Tank?
What would be the best way to test for cleanliness, in a floatation tank? I have tried some test kits, with confusing results.

Filtration is important, to remove dead skin, hair and debris. A 1 micron filter bag would seem the ideal choice: compact, easy to remove and dispose of, and very effective. Ultraviolet sterilizers are always a plus. It renders microbes inert, as light passes through any cellsl, including microorganisms that other common pool and spa sanitizers cannot. We have industrial strength UV light combined with the chemical injector for auto-dosing the cycle with 35% H202, mixed with the correct amount of Ozone from our 6 ozonators instead of 1 or 2. This creates Peroxone, which is a molecule that is rated by the EPA as the standard for drinking water filters in the US. We have adapted this to manage 160-260 gallons of saline 3 times in 15 minutes as our base filtration cycle. This cycle can easily be extended for large contaminations.

► Adding Peroxide To A Tank?
What is the proper way to use H202?

Concentrated hydrogen peroxide is a material that needs to be handled properly and stored in a cool, dark place which will help preserve it. Going through a dilution step is asking for an accident to happen, unless you are using a spray bottle of the diluted H202 for the interior or exterior fiberglass. Without our Auto-doser for chemicals like H202, you will add it to the tank and avoid getting the full strength material on your hands or clothing. You will need protective gloves and goggles if you are hand-dosing the tank with H202. Rinse and dry the measuring cup.

► How to measure the specific gravity of the solution?

A glass hydrometer is a bobbing glass cylinder that is calibrated to read specific gravity or density on an analog scale. Our digital hydrometer is quicker and easier and can be more precise and versatile. When the specific gravity is too high, you add water. Too low - you add Epsom salts. Optimum floating is between specific gravity levels of 1.265 and 1.285, with floaters sometimes preferring to go outside those levels.

► Brown Water And Sediments?

The sediments could be impurities, such as manganese, iron and other metals, from the Epsom salts being impure (food grade or foreign standard) or your tap water. Using food, technical or industrial instead of medical grades can increase this problem or getting them from a country of origin that has loose regulation. I suggest using a pharmaceutical or medical grade of Epsom salt. Epsom salt is MAGNESIUM SULFATE. Most impurities should filter out in our system. While it is extremely unlikely that microbes will ever flourish in a floatation tank and a UV sanitizer will neutralize most anything passing through the cell, it is not enough by itself. Oxidation is required to decompose all of the debris, wastes and dead microorganisms that pass right through the filter. Hydrogen peroxide would be the logical choice. The proper amount of Ozone created at the right time in the filtration cycle makes for safe and efficient oxidation, especially when combined the UV light and H202. Vigorous circulation and agitation will help suspend the microscopic particles and allow for more effective filtration. You may want to run an Advanced Timing extended filtration cycle, where you can set the chem cycle length of the auto-doser, and the length of the ozonators. This usually rids the tank solution of large contaminations such as hair dye, foul odors, and heavy metals, if ran over-night or for an extended period.