



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

COMPLIANCE DIVISION/ Barber & Cosmetology Programs

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Footspa Sanitation Requirements

Protect Your Customers

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 these shops. Customers are infected as a result of having their fingers, hands, legs, or feet immersed in solutions that contain bacteria or as a result of the cosmetologist, manicurist, or barber using instruments that have not been properly disinfected or sterilized between customers.

An increasing number of salons and shops use whirlpool footspas as part of the pedicure process. These footspas can harbor bacteria if not properly cleaned and disinfected between customers. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation rules require footspas to be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis to prevent the spread of diseases to the public.

The footspa sanitation rule requirements essentially require that:

- Footspas shall be drained, cleaned and disinfected between each customers' use.
- Footspas shall be drained, cleaned and disinfected at the close of each day.
- Footspas 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 footspa, documenting compliance with the above referenced sanitation requirements.

It is important to utilize the minimum or greater concentration of disinfectant and to use the minimum or greater cleaning/exposure times when cleaning and disinfecting footspas.

Your compliance with the footspa 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 the footspa sanitation requirements.

The complete footspa sanitation rules for barbers and for cosmetologists are printed in full on the reverse side of this page.

Rules Relating to Cleaning and Disinfecting of Whirlpool Footspas

Barbers – Rule 82.108 TAC 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% 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 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.

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