



402 Pools - How to Clean Your Pentair Pump Basket

Regular maintenance of your Pentair pump and filter baskets is essential for ensuring that your pool equipment runs efficiently. Keeping these baskets clean helps prevent clogs, promotes better water flow, and extends the life of your pool system. This guide will walk you through the process of cleaning your Pentair pump basket and filter baskets.

1. Turn Off the Pool Pump

- **Safety First:** Always turn off the pool pump and electrical equipment before working on your pump or filter to avoid any electrical accidents.
- **Switch Off the Circuit Breaker:** Ensure the circuit breaker for your pool pump is in the off position to fully disconnect the power.

2. Locate the Pump Basket

- **Pump Basket Location:** The pump basket is typically located at the front of the pump housing. It is designed to catch debris before the water enters the pump, protecting the pump impeller.
- **Check the Basket Cover:** Depending on your model, there may be a transparent lid or cover that you'll need to remove to access the basket.

3. Remove the Pump Basket

- **Loosen the Lid:** Unscrew or remove the lid of the pump basket housing. Be prepared for some water to spill out when you open the lid.
- **Remove the Basket:** Carefully pull the pump basket out of the housing. Gently lift it out of the compartment.

4. Clean the Pump Basket

- **Empty Debris:** Discard any leaves, dirt, or debris that are caught in the pump basket.
- **Rinse Thoroughly:** Use a hose to rinse the basket thoroughly. Make sure to clean all areas, especially the corners where debris can collect.
- **Inspect for Damage:** Check the basket for any cracks, tears, or signs of wear. If the basket is damaged, it may need to be replaced.

5. Clean the Pump Basket Housing

- **Clear the Housing Area:** Use a towel or sponge to wipe down the inside of the pump basket housing. Make sure to remove any debris that has built up inside the compartment.
- **Inspect the O-Ring:** Check the O-ring around the pump basket lid. If it appears worn or damaged, replace it to ensure a proper seal when reattaching the lid.

6. Reinstall the Pump Basket

- **Place the Basket Back in the Housing:** Carefully position the cleaned pump basket back into the housing.
- **Secure the Lid:** Once the basket is in place, secure the lid back onto the pump housing. Ensure the lid is properly tightened to prevent leaks.

7. Turn the Pump Back On

- **Restore Power:** After the pump basket is cleaned and securely in place, return to the circuit breaker and switch the power back on.
- **Prime the Pump:** If your pump is air-locked, you may need to prime it. To do this, open the lid again and fill the pump with water. Secure the lid and start the pump again until water begins to flow steadily.
- **Check for Leaks:** Once the pump is running, check around the pump and lid for any leaks. If you notice any water escaping, turn the pump off and recheck the lid and O-ring to ensure everything is sealed properly.

8. Monitor the Water Flow

- **Check the Flow:** Ensure that the water is flowing freely and the pump is operating efficiently. The flow should be steady and strong. If you notice any decrease in flow, check the pump basket and filter baskets for further debris buildup.

By following these steps and maintaining your Pentair pump basket regularly, you will help extend the life of your pool equipment and ensure optimal performance throughout the pool season.