

Sawyer Select™ Filter and Purifier Usage Instructions

The Foam Adsorption Technology used in these systems was developed with a partnership with Foamulations LLC in Pennsylvania to now be able to safely remove contaminants like heavy metals, chemicals, pesticides, viruses while also improving taste and odor. This highly advanced filtration and purification process, combined with our 0.1 micron absolute filter will ensure that any and all particulate or pathogens above 0.1 microns are filtered out of your water, including bacteria, protozoa, cysts, dirt and sediment.

We are excited for you to try your new Sawyer Select Filter or Purifier. Below are our initial steps for use as well as our standard tips and tricks for use. As this technology and product is brand new, we expect these tips and tricks to evolve over time as we receive feedback from our customers so please do reach out to us with any questions or comments via the contact information at the bottom of this page. Our goal is to help keep you outdoors and to continue to develop this technology and our product line.

When First Opening

Our engineers know how hard it is not to take everything you buy apart to figure out what is inside, but the silicon bottle is hard to reseal if you loosen the black reducer cap. **That is why we recommend only filling through the smaller opening where the Micro Squeeze™ filter attaches.** If you take the reducer cap off you will need to get it to seal again before using it. Without a good seal water can leak out and could contaminate your water.

Why is it Damp?

The bottles are pre-activated during the manufacturing process to shorten the steps for your first use and your system may be a little damp when you first open it. There is no need to be alarmed here because the system is treated with a proprietary material that keeps bacteria and mold from growing. This proprietary material allows you to store water in your bottles as long as you want without bacteria growing or affecting the life of your filter.

Steps for the First Use

The first time you use your bottle, there may be some loose adsorption material that got knocked loose during packaging and shipping. It is not harmful but if it is not rinsed out it could be enough to slow the flow rate down to the point where the Micro Squeeze filter will need a quick backwash. **The residual material also has a remote chance of leaving a metallic taste until the Select Foam has been fully rinsed with the initial use instructions below. Please note that this initial rinsing process does not count against the total number of uses.**

To avoid this:

1. Fill the bottle up halfway with water, screw on the Micro Squeeze filter, and make sure the white push pull cap is closed on the Micro Squeeze.
2. Squeeze the bottle at least ten times to work the water in and out of the foam. Some of the water will absorb into the foam so take the micro squeeze off and then fill the bottle to the max fill line.
3. Reinstall the Micro Squeeze filter, squeeze the bottle at least ten more times, and then take the Micro Squeeze filter off.
4. With the Micro Squeeze filter removed, turn the bottle over and roll up the bottle tightly to force all of the water back out of the foam. You should not need to repeat this initial step. You are now ready to start using your new filter.

How to Use

Note: Regular use instructions are printed on the side of the bottle.

1. Remove the Micro Squeeze filter from the black reducer cap and fill the bottle to the Max Fill Line. If you overfill the bottle, dump out the excess water.
2. Screw the Micro Squeeze back onto the black reducer cap.
3. Squeeze the bottle in an alternating motion for 10 seconds.
4. Open the white push-pull cap on the Micro Squeeze filter and drink directly from the filter or dispense water into another container.

Every bottle after that first should produce 20 to 22 oz of water depending on how efficient you are at squeezing the water out of the bottle.

After Using

The foam inside the bottle is meant to be stored fully expanded to achieve the advertised lifespan of the system. To do this simply unscrew the Micro Squeeze filter and let air back into the bottle after you are done filtering water. The foam will naturally compress in size over the life of the system but if the foam is stored compressed for long periods of time, the foam can be permanently deformed. Long term compression can shorten the life of the foam filter/purifier.

Storage

You can store the bottle with either the Micro Squeeze filter or included white cap screwed on top of the bottle. The proprietary ingredients in the foam will make sure that your foam does not grow bacteria or develop an odor. **Please do not compress these systems for storage. Store your bottles fully expanded to ensure that you do not inadvertently shorten their life.**

If you want to dry out your bottle for packing weight reasons (it can save approximately one ounce), store in a dry room with the lid removed and the moisture will eventually evaporate out. Be aware that after you dry the bottle out, your first bottle will produce much less water than normal since our foam is hydrophilic (meaning it attracts water) and will want to hold onto some no matter how hard you squeeze. Repeat steps for first use when you want to use your filter again.

Cleaning your Micro Squeeze Filter

While the foam inside the bottle has a life expectancy, the Micro Squeeze Hollow Fiber Membrane Filter can be routinely backwashed and reused. Regular backwashing of the Micro Squeeze filter will help maintain the flow rate of the system.

Backwashing the Micro Squeeze Filter with the cleaning plunger:

1. Reserve some clean, filtered water for backwashing (about 1 quart).
2. Remove the Micro Squeeze filter from the black reducer cap and unscrew the white push-pull cap.
3. Place the end of the cleaning plunger on the drinking side of the Micro Squeeze filter and forcefully backwash the clean water **backwards** through the filter. Repeat this process several times.
4. Fill the cleaning plunger again and force water **forwards** through the filter to loosen up any dirt, then repeat the regular backwashing process until your filter is clean and water flows freely through the filter.

Backwashing the Micro Squeeze Filter with the Cleaning Coupling:

1. Find a clean plastic bottle with the standard 28 mm threading that will screw onto the Cleaning Coupling.
2. Fill the bottle with clean, filtered water.
3. Remove the Micro Squeeze from the black reducer cap, remove the white push-pull cap from the Micro Squeeze filter, and screw the Cleaning Coupling onto the threads.
4. Screw the filter with attached coupling on the plastic bottle, turn the bottle upside down, and forcefully squeeze the clean water back through the Micro Squeeze Filter. Repeat this process until the filter is clean and water flows freely through the filter.

For the latest information, instructional videos, and FAQ's, please visit www.sawyer.com, email questions, comments, or suggestions to customer@sawyer.com or call us toll free at 800.356.7811