

MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Maintaining Your HWFA Reverse Osmosis System

For the HWFA 4-stage and 5-stage undersink systems


Twist-off cartridges

Quick, clean cartridge changes


Long-life membrane

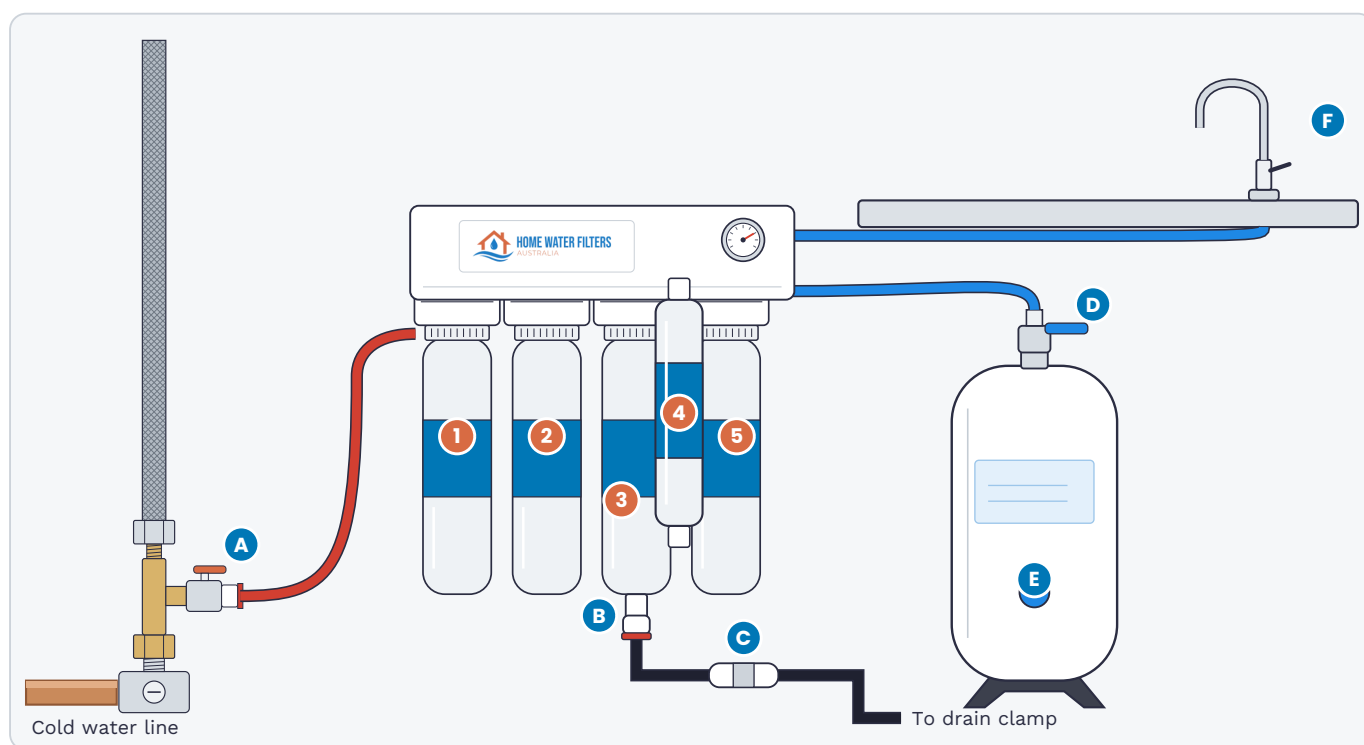
Lasts 3 to 6 years, depending on use


Easy to check

Test pure water quality with a TDS meter

Your system. Both HWFA reverse osmosis systems use the same twist-off cartridges and the same maintenance steps. The 5-stage system adds an alkaliser at stage 4, mounted in front of the cartridges, so its GAC post-filter is stage 5. On the 4-stage system the GAC post-filter is stage 4. Use the table below to match the stage numbers.

DIAGRAM 1 System assembly (5-stage shown)



Stage numbers

Cartridge	4-stage	5-stage
Sediment pre-filter	1	1
GAC pre-filter	2	2
Ultrafine TFC RO membrane	3	3
Alkaliser / remineraliser	Not fitted	4
GAC post-filter	4	5

Fittings

- A** Feed water valve
- B** Stem elbow
- C** Inline flow restrictor
- D** Storage tank tap
- E** Pure water storage tank
- F** Filter faucet


PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE STARTING MAINTENANCE

Always **turn off the feed water valve** to your system before you begin (step 1). Keep a towel handy: a little water may drip from the cartridge heads.

Step-by-step cartridge replacement

1 Turn off the water

Close the feed water valve (A) on the tee-piece, then close the storage tank tap (D).

2 Replace the sediment pre-filter

Note the direction shown on the filter label, then twist off the sediment pre-filter (stage 1) and dispose of it. Twist the new sediment cartridge into the same position.


Remove the yellow dust plug

Before fitting any new cartridge, remove the yellow dust plug from its head.

3 Replace the GAC pre-filter

Note the direction shown on the filter label, then twist off the GAC pre-filter (stage 2) and dispose of it. Twist a new GAC cartridge into the same position.

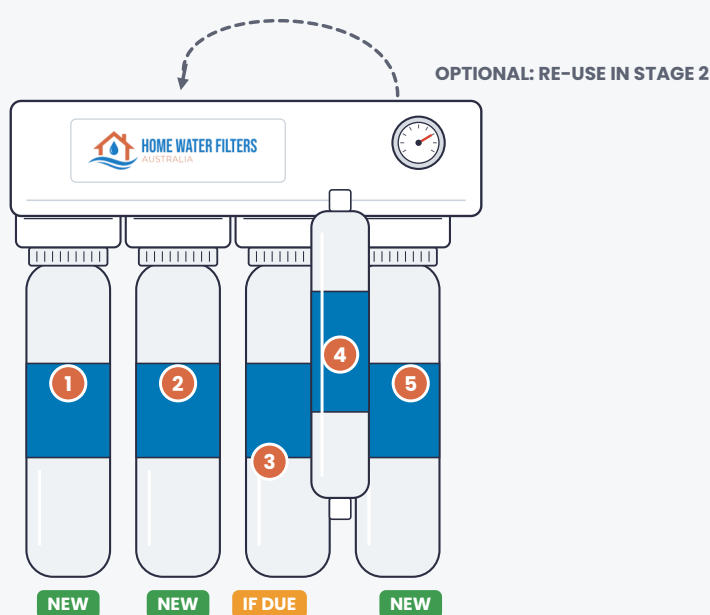
4 Replace the GAC post-filter

Twist off the GAC post-filter (stage 4 on the 4-stage, stage 5 on the 5-stage) and dispose of it. Twist a new GAC cartridge into the same position.


Option: re-use the GAC post-filter

The GAC post-filter has only been used as a polishing filter, so you can re-use it as the GAC pre-filter instead of disposing of it. Dispose of the old pre-filter (step 3), fit the used post-filter in stage 2, then fit a new GAC cartridge in the post-filter position (step 4).

DIAGRAM 2 Changing the cartridges (5-stage shown)



- 1 Sediment pre-filter: fit a new cartridge
- 2 GAC pre-filter: fit a new cartridge
- 3 RO membrane: replace only when due
- 4 Alkaliser (5-stage only): replace when due
- 5 GAC post-filter: fit a new cartridge (stage 4 on the 4-stage)

Step-by-step cartridge replacement (continued)

5 Replace the RO membrane, when due

Remove the stem elbow (B) from the base of the membrane, leaving the black tube in place. Twist off the membrane and dispose of it. Twist the new membrane into the same position and refit the stem elbow (Diagram 3).

7 Turn the water back on and flush

Open the feed water valve. After an hour, open the storage tank tap. Then open the filter faucet and let it run for a few minutes to flush the system. Some discolouration and air bubbles are normal: harmless carbon fines and oxygen are being flushed from the new cartridges. Your system is now working.

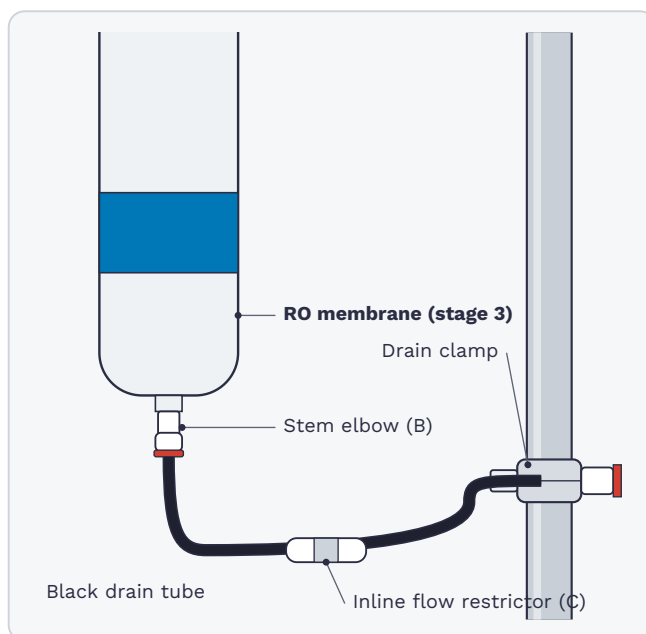
i How long does the membrane last?

Depending on water quality and usage, your RO membrane should last 3 to 6 years. You can test your pure water quality with a conductivity meter that measures total dissolved solids (TDS) at the filter faucet.

6 Replace the alkaliser (5-stage)

5-stage systems only, when due. Take off the red clips, push in the collets and pull out the tube at each end of the alkaliser (stage 4). Fit the new cartridge the same way round as the old one, push the tubes fully in and refit the red clips.

DIAGRAM 3 Membrane stem elbow



OPTIONAL ACCESSORY

Leak Stopper & Filter Life Monitor

Leak Stopper. When moisture is detected by the metal contacts, the alarm sounds and the unit closes the solenoid valve to shut off the water supply. The Leak Warning Indicator blinks blue until the unit is reset. Once the leak is fixed, press and hold the reset button for 4 seconds: the unit gives a long beep and re-opens the valve.

Filter Life Monitor. Know exactly when to change your cartridges. The Cartridge Maintenance Indicator shows a different coloured light depending on the life remaining in your cartridges.



Caring for the cartridge O-rings



NEVER USE A SHARP TOOL

Removing an O-ring with a sharp tool can damage the O-ring or its groove in the head assembly, which may cause leaks.

Look after the O-rings and replace them from time to time to prevent leaks. Each twist-off cartridge head has two O-rings: an outer O-ring and an inner O-ring (Diagram 4).

Removing the outer O-ring

1. Insert a soft or blunt tool between the inside of the O-ring and its groove.
2. Slide the tool around the inside of the groove so the O-ring pops up. If needed, hold one side of the O-ring to stop it turning in the groove.

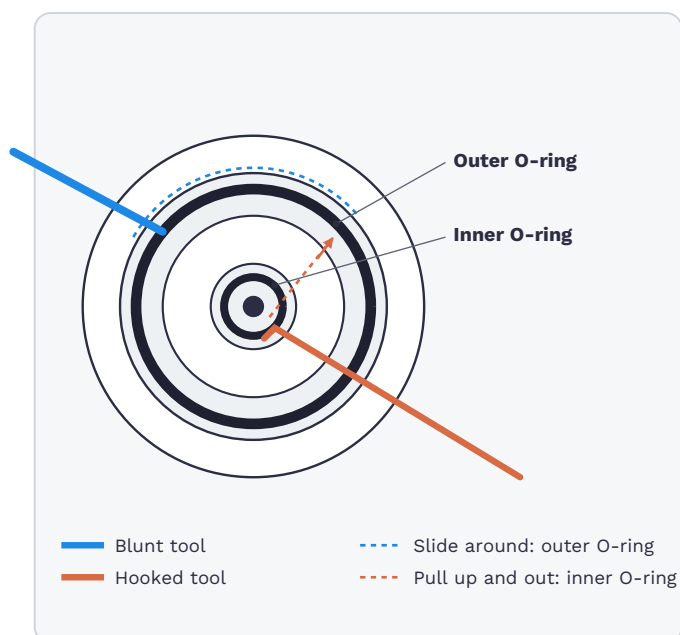
Removing the inner O-ring

1. Using a soft or blunt tool, ideally with a small hook, insert the tool between the inside of the O-ring and its groove.
2. Hook the O-ring and pull it up and out of the head assembly.

Re-using or replacing an O-ring

1. Inspect the O-ring carefully and clean it, wiping gently with a lint-free cloth.
2. Lightly coat the O-ring with silicone grease or olive oil.
3. Push the O-ring back into its groove. Run your finger or the blunt tool around it to make sure it sits flush in the groove.

DIAGRAM 4 O-rings in the cartridge head



Maintenance record

Date	Cartridges replaced	O-rings checked	Notes

Need a hand?

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