

Sky Water Softener

Product Manual



ULTRA SOFT
WATER SOFTENER SPECIALISTS



Technical Parameters

Nominal Flow Rate @ 1.05 Bar Drop	160 l/hr
Peak Flow Rate	480 l/hr
Backwash @ 1.05 Bar Drop	400 l/hr
Inlet / Outlet Connections	¾" BSPT Male
Drain Line Connections	¾" BSPT Male
Operating Pressure	1.5 - 6 Bar
Water Temperature	2 - 38 °C
Ambient Temperature	2 - 50 °C
Power Consumption (Max)	4W Max
Power Consumption (Avg)	Less Than 1W
Electrical Rating	12V 50Hz
Resin Volume	4 Litres
Regeneration Time	Approx 46 Min
Water Used Per Regeneration	59 Litres
Salt Used Per Regeneration	0.6 Kg

Salt Requirements

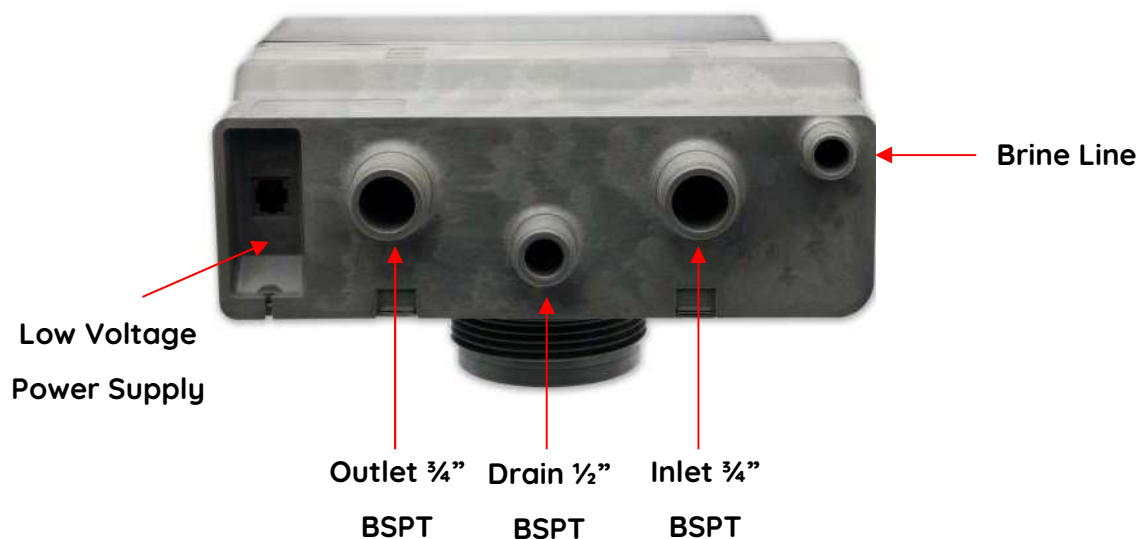
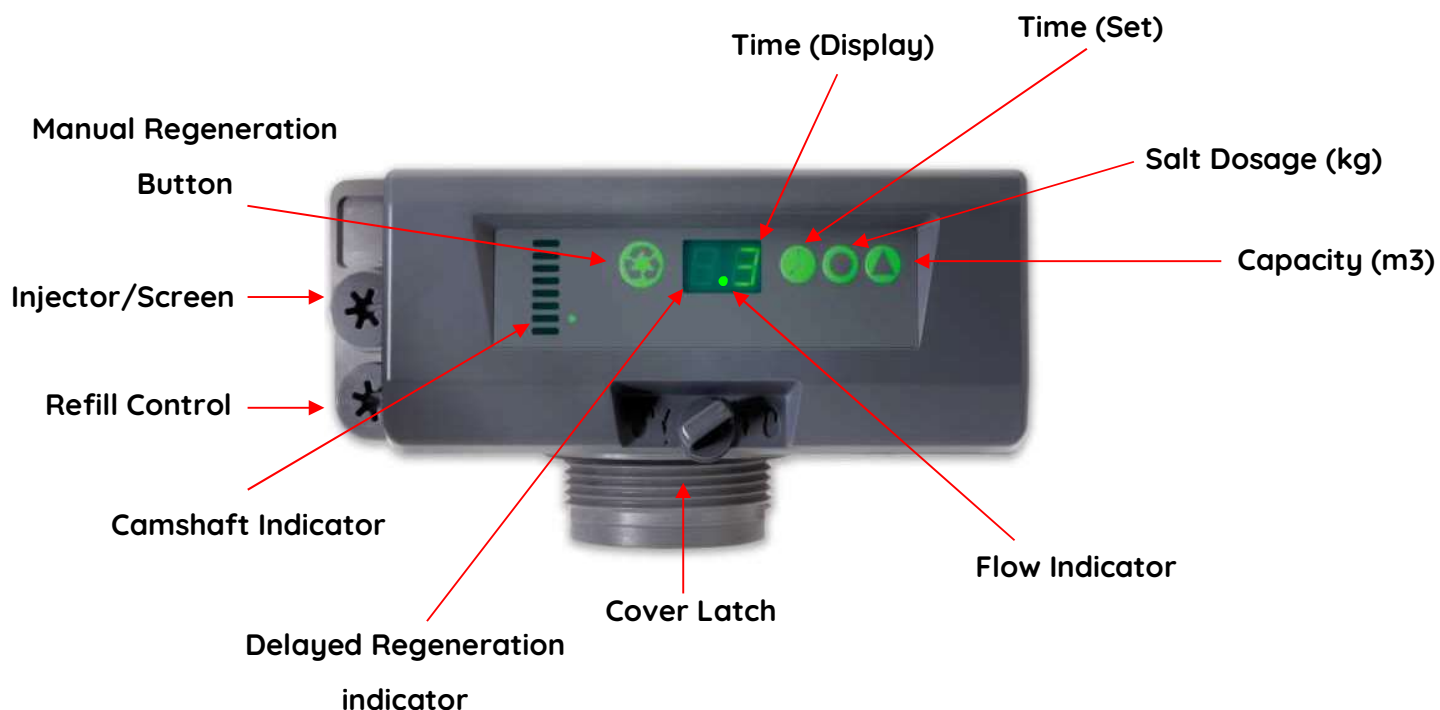
The Sky water softener uses salt to regenerate. We recommend softener salt that should conform to the European Standard EN 973.

Block Salt: If you are using block salt one block will fit in the salt bin, a specific holder is not available for this softener and when the blocks dissolve they may fall over. As soon as there is room put in new blocks above the old ones.

Tablet Salt: If you are using tablet salt make sure the salt bin is always topped up with salt (holds about 20kg). The salt should always be higher than the water level.



Control Operation And Layout



Power Loss Memory Retention: The time will remain in the memory for 6 to 24 hours. If it's lost, the time of day will reset to "O" immediately after the power is restored. The time must then be reset to ensure the regeneration occurs at the 0.00. All other programmed parameters are stored and are retained during power outages.



Starting The Installation

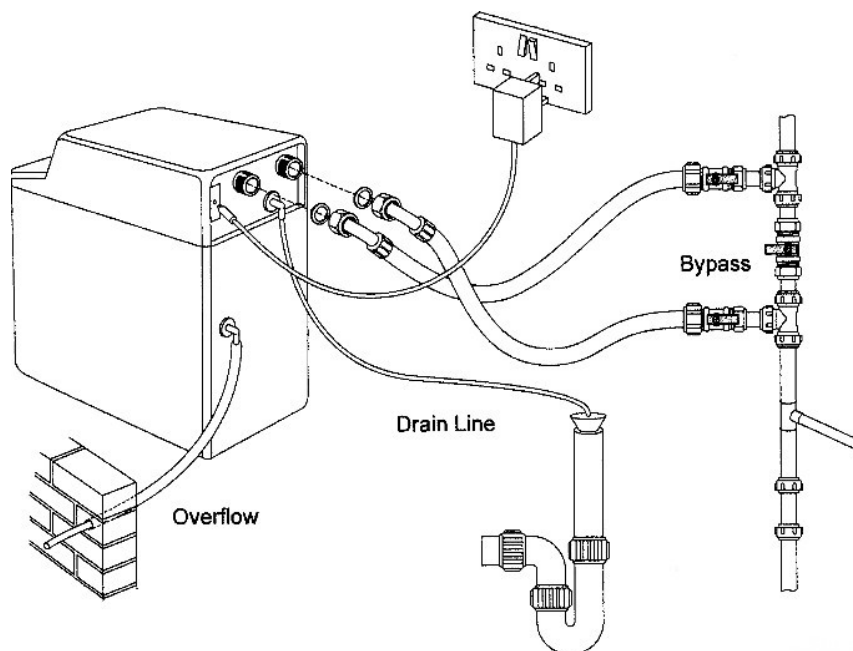
Before You Start

- inspect the water softener for shipping damage or shortages
- Follow all the applicable plumbing and electrical regulations during installation. If at all in doubt, refer to the relevant WRAS information at www.wras.co.uk
- The water softener is not intended for the treatment of water that is microbiologically unsafe or of unknown quality without adequate disinfection before or after the system and is to be used *only* for potable water
- Use caution when installing soldered metal piping near the water softener. Heat can adversely affect the plastic control valve system. Be sure all soldered pipes are fully cooled before attaching the plastic valve to the plumbing
- All plastic connections should be hand tightened. PTFE tape may be used on connections that do not use an “O” ring seal. Do not use pipe or dope type sealants on the valve body. Do not use pliers or pipe wrenches
- Minimum pipe run to a water heater should be more than 3 meters to prevent backup of hot water into system
- Only use the power transformer supplied with the water softener
- The power outlet must be earthed. Install an appropriate earthing strap across the inlet and outlet piping of the water softener to ensure proper earth is maintained
- Observe drain line requirements. The drain line must be a minimum of ½” diameter. Use ¾” pipe if the total length of the drain line exceeds 6 meters
- Do not support the weight of the softener on the control valve connections or plumbing
- Protect the softener, softener drain and all other components from the effects of frost. Damage from freezing will void your warranty
- Keep the media vessel upright. Do not turn upside down or drop. Turning the vessel upside down or laying the vessel on its side can cause media to enter the valve

It is recommended that your water softener is installed by a professional plumber. This product manual is written to help the professional installer and assumes that this person has a working knowledge of hydraulic softeners and domestic plumbing systems.



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Positioning The Water Softener

- Measure your water softener and the space where it will be installed. Remember to allow extra space for connecting pipe work when you do your calculations and access for future servicing and topping up salt
- Keep the distance of the incoming main and drainage to a minimum
- System weight is greatly increased when fully operational and filled with salt so this needs to be taken into account when choosing where to site the softener
- Your softener is designed to operate effectively with an incoming water pressure of between 1.5 and 6 bar. If your water supply is likely to fall outside these parameters we recommend that a booster pump or pressure reducing valve should be fitted
- Do not install your water softener next to a boiler or other heat source where the ambient temperature will exceed 40' C

Bypass Connections

A bypass loop should be installed on all water softeners. The bypass valve isolates the softener from the water system and provides un-softened water to the water system during routine maintenance and servicing procedures. See above diagram for reference.

Loft Installation

The water softener may be installed in a loft or roof cavity but must be situated within a safety bund tank of not less than 100 litres capacity. This tank should also be mounted on a board strong enough to spread the weight over a load bearing wall.



Drain Line Connection

- The unit should be above and not more than 6 meters from the drain. Use an appropriate adapter to connect 1.3cm plastic tubing to the drain line connection of the control valve
- The drain line may be elevated up to 1.8 meters providing the run does not exceed 4.6 meters and the water pressure at the softener is not less than 2.76 bar. Elevation can increase by 61cm for each additional 0.69 bar of water pressure at the drain connector
- Where the drain line is elevated but empties into a drain below the level of the control valve, form an 18cm loop at the far end of the line so that the bottom of the loop is level with the drain line connection. This will provide an adequate siphon tap
- Where the drain empties into an overhead sewer line, a sing-type trap must be used
- Secure the end of the drain line to prevent it from moving

Safety Devices

A backflow prevention device is required which has an air gap of 20mm minimum on both the independent regenerant drain and the brine tank overflow. The device needs to meet EN 1717 standards. The device is required to protect public water from contamination.

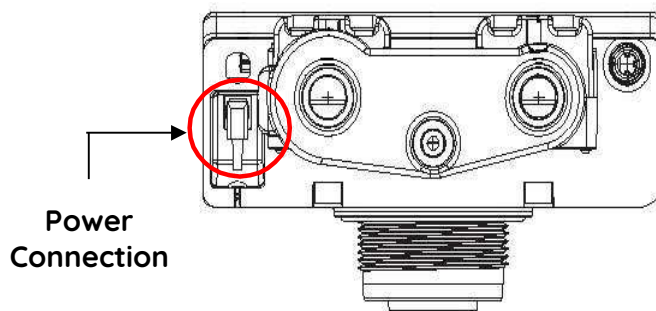
Drinking Water

When fitting your water softener, allowance should be made for at least one drinking water tap that is not fed by the water softener. Where practical this should be at the kitchen sink but a utility room or other alternative will suffice.

It is recommended that people on a low sodium diet should not drink artificially softened water. Water used for mixing infant powder for babies must only be taken from the un-softened water as softened water contains an increased level of sodium to which young babies have a limited tolerance.

Electrical Connection

The softener operates on low voltage via a plug in transformer. Do not use any other transformer except the one supplied with the softener.



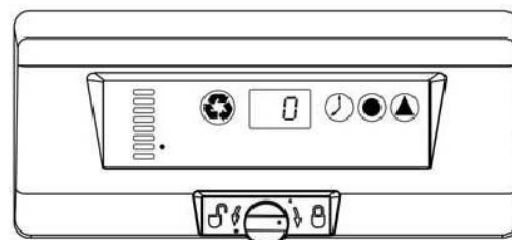


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Basic Programming

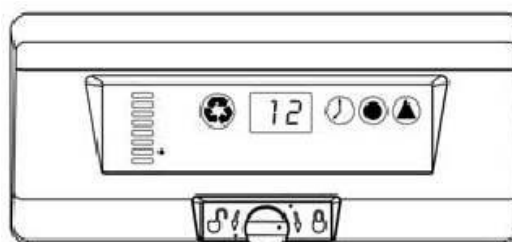
Changing Time Of Day


Press the clock button until the hour appears, then release. Time can be adjusted between 0 to 23 hours. The elapsed minutes will reset to zero when the hours are changed.




Manual Regeneration

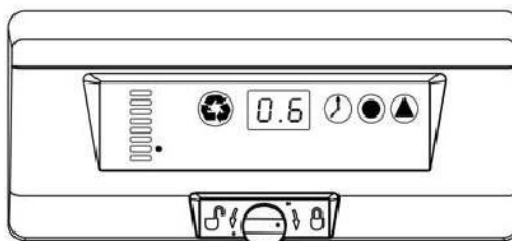
Delayed Regeneration: Press and release  to program a delayed regeneration. The system will regenerate at the next time of regeneration (02.00 am). Repeat procedure to disable the delayed regen. Regen dot blinks when delayed regeneration is on.




Immediate Regeneration: Press and hold the  for 3 seconds to initiate regeneration. The control will display a cascading symbol (- -) as it cycles to backwash.

Salt Dosage

Press  until 0.6 kg appears then release. Range can be set between 0.2 kg to 0.6 kg salt dosage appears then release. However, dosage should be set to 0.6 kg.

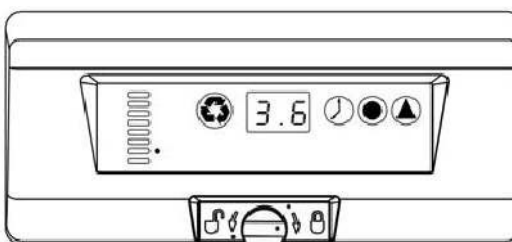


Capacity (m3)

Press  until the desired setting is reached then release. Range is between 0.40 to 9.5 m3 (see below for settings).

Capacity = 240 divided by the hardness in ppm CaCO₃


Eg at 300ppm hardness, Capacity = 240/300 = 0.8 (m³) so set capacity to 0.8 (typical for London area)





Start Up

Now programming is complete, lift the salt lid and pour 1.2 litres of clean water into softener. Do not put the salt in yet.


1. Make sure the supply water for the system is off
2. Press and hold the  button on the controller for 3 seconds. This will initiate a manual regeneration, and cycle to the backwash position
3. With the water softener in backwash, open the water supply valve very slowly to approximately ¼ open position. Water will begin to enter the media vessel. Air will begin to be purged to drain as the media vessel fills with water. When all of the air has been purged from the media vessel (water begins to flow steadily from the drain line), open the main supply valve all the way. This will purge the final air from the tank
4. After the backwash (approximately 1 minute) the system will move in to brine draw. At this point the water in the bottom of the softener will be slowly drawn in and the level should drop. This will take about 10 minutes. If the water is drawn up then this proves there are no air leaks in the system There could be up to a centimetre height of water left in the softener at the end of this cycle which is OK
5. After 15 minutes of the brine draw with most of the water having disappeared add the salt – either block salt or tablet salt
6. Allow the regeneration to proceed to the end (after the brine draw a measured amount of water will flow into the softener and dissolve 0.6 kg of the salt ready for the next regeneration. The system is now ready





The salt level should always be kept above the water level

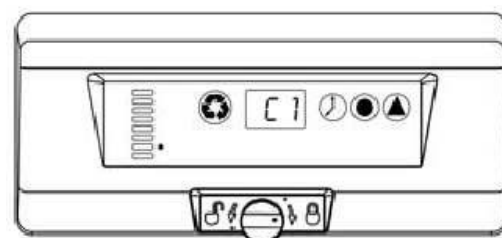


Advanced Programming



Quick Cycling The Control (In Regeneration)

Press and hold  for 3 seconds to initiate an immediate regeneration. The control will cycle to the backwash cycle.

1. Press and release the  to display C1
2. Simultaneously press then release  and  to move the control to the next cycle
3. Press and release  to display C2
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to cycle through each position









Quick Cycle To Service Position

Simultaneously press  and  hold for 3 seconds during any regeneration cycle. The control will skip the remaining regeneration cycles and return to the service position.

Cycle No.	Cycle Description	Notes	Approx Mins
C1	Backwash	Cleans debris out of softener	1
C2	Draw & slow rinse	Uses brine to recharge the softener	36
C3	Depressurisation	Equalises water pressures	3
C4	Fast rinse	Rinses out any remaining brine	1
C5	2 nd backwash		1
C6	2 nd rinse		1
C7	Brine refill	Makes brine ready for next regeneration	3

System Reset (Please Contact Installer Before Changing System Settings)

1. Press and hold the  and  buttons simultaneously for 3 seconds
2. A small “u” will be displayed in the left digit (should be u3)
3. Press the  button to scroll through the settings available, release the button when “u0” is displayed. Wait 5 seconds – this resets the memory
4. The display will revert to the time of day setting. The control has now defaulted to system u1 setting (needs to be reset to 3 – see next step)
5. Press and hold the  and  buttons simultaneously for 3 seconds
6. A small “u” will be displayed in the left digit. The right digit will display the current system setting. Set this to 3 by pressing the  button



Maintenance

Please follow the advice below to maintain your softener.

- **Regularly check the salt level is above the water level** – At a minimum this should be performed weekly. If the salt level isn't above the water level, salt should be added immediately.
- **Check for leaks and that the drain line is free of debris** – This should be performed monthly. If the drain line is kinked or obstructed, free it from obstruction.
- **Maintain consistent usage of the softener** – To keep the resin bed fresh, regeneration should occur frequently. If the softener hasn't been used for 96hrs then a regeneration should be performed.
- **To shut down the softener** - Disconnect the power by unplugging the AC adaptor from its power source. If necessary put the softener in bypass.