

Maintenance guide for wooden sauna tubs and bath tubs with hygienic sealing

- Tub should be stored and used in a dry and heated room (exception: outdoor tubs that are equipped with a cover and varnished with a uv-resistant stain on the outside)
- Please stick a barrier between the tub's feet and the floor to avoid rising moisture (e.g. foam tape or nails with big plastic head)
- Please wait approx. 1-3 weeks after production date before filling the tub with water. The surface of the hygienic sealing will become even more resistant during this time.
- Please check the tension of the metal hoops with a 17 mm wrench:
 - before you fill the tub the first time
 - at least 2 x per year
 - whenever the tub has not been filled for more than 4 weeks
 - whenever you think the wood moisture content has decreased (wood became dry)
- Check tub's condition regularly. Any defects or damages must be repaired as soon as possible to avoid severe problems. Especially the hygienic sealing / coating must always be in perfect condition.
- Otherwise moisture can get into the wood.
- Check all built-in parts regularly (seat panels, steps, backrests, drains...). If screws are not fastened properly, moisture can get into the wood.
- The tub should not be filled with water permanently. After being filled for max. 1 week, it should stay dry for about the same period of time. This is to keep the wood moisture content on a low level.
- Wipe the tub's bottom dry after emptying.
- Clean the tub regularly, especially also the silicone sealing between tub's bottom and wall.
- You can use common sanitary cleansing agents like sprays. Don't use scouring powder or scratching sponges. Silicone should be disinfected from time to time.
- If frost is expected, the tub must be empty.

Background information:

Wood moisture content

Wood is a natural material that shows swelling and shrinkage whenever the wood moisture content varies. These shrinkage and swelling movements can cause leakage of a wooden tub. So you always must try to achieve, that the moisture content varies as little as possible. In other words: the wood of the tub should always have the same moisture content. Either rather high like a wine barrel or rather low like a bath tub.

During storage in a heated showroom or warehouse or if not being used for a longer time in the customers bathroom, the wood will become very dry. This is the reason, why we process the wood in a very dry condition. When we assemble a tub, the wood has a moisture content of approx. 5-10%. We shelter the wood from moisture by coating the wood's surface with our hygienic sealing. It is almost impermeable for water. The best way of using a tub with hygienic sealing is: only fill it with water, if you want to use it. Afterwards empty the tub, rub it dry, clean it and leave it dry.

If a tub has been filled with water permanently or very often for several weeks, the moisture content will increase. Same can happen if the tub has been stored in an unheated warehouse. If a tub must be filled with water almost every day (e.g. public sauna), it might be better to keep the moisture content on a rather high level. The swelling pressure will cause compressing the little cells in the wood's structure, the hoops will be stretched.

If such a wet tub will stay dry for a longer time, the wood will show shrinkage and the hoops will become slack. This is the most dangerous condition. If the hoops are not tightened, the wood can get cracks and gaps and the tub will become leaky. So it is extremely important to always tighten the hoops while a (former wet) tub stays dry. Never fill a tub with water, if the hoops are slack.

For renovating purposes you can apply the hygienic sealing with a brush. Please only use our original sealing / coating. Outdoor tubs are varnished with common uv-resistant wood stain on the tub's outside.

Resistance against uv-sunlight

Natural, untreated wood becomes grey if exposed to sunlight and rain. A clear coating is not uv-resistant. It will peel off after a while. For outdoor purposes you must order your tub with uv-resistant varnish on the tub's outside (e.g.: pigmented "LeTonkinois Oil", www.letonkinois.com). The inside must either be coated with pigmented hygienic sealing (e.g.: blue) or it must be sheltered by a cover if clear coated.

No warranty if tub has not been used and treated according to these guidelines!