

# Water Softener Facts

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## WHAT A WATER SOFTENER DOES

A water softener can save you as much as 50%-70% when it comes to soaps and detergents throughout the year. Your clothes benefit also during the laundering process thanks to no more dinginess from the mineral staining water. But the biggest reason to invest in a water softener is to prevent the buildup of minerals in your water pipes and water heater, as well as on your porcelain surfaces and water fixtures and appliances.

When the minerals and hardness are removed from the water it feels “soft.” With no hard minerals for the soap to cling to, the slippery feeling you now feel are the natural oils of your skin surfacing, not the soap left behind.

## HOW A WATER SOFTENER WORKS

A water softener consists of a tank with a distributor tube running up and down the center. The water enters the tank at the top of the control valve and flows down through the material which takes the minerals and “hardness” out of your water called “resin”.

Resin is made up of very small beads that are coated with sodium ions which attract the calcium and magnesium ions in hard water. The hard water ions swap places with the sodium ions.

The now softened water then runs up the distributor tube and out of the unit and into your home.

The valve is also responsible for the “regeneration process”(an automatic cleansing of the resin), which involves releasing the mineral ions from the resin beads using a brine solution kept in the brine tank.

This process is quite simple, and has been proven and effective for decades.

