HOW TO WASH AND CLEAN NEBULIZER PARTS

Owning a nebulizer means that you’ll need to perform some basic cleaning and maintenance to keep it in working order. Compressor filters eventually become dirty and channels get clogged. Also, the tubing, masks, and mouthpieces will degrade over time. It’s essential to clean your nebulizer, replace parts, and check for dysfunctional components to make the most of your nebulizer treatments. Here are some of the basics:

• Always follow manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning your nebulizer, parts, and accessories.
• Do not use nebulizer masks longer than recommended, even if they seem fine. Some accessories, like disposable masks, are meant to be thrown away after 5 to 7 uses, while regular child and adult nebulizer masks are meant to be used for up to 6 months. Plastics degrade over time, and your treatment benefits may decrease with a mask used longer than directed. Upon replacement, make sure to purchase a mask that’s compatible with your nebulizer.
• Change the nebulizer filter as recommended in your owner’s manual, or when it appears gray or dirty. Failure to change the filter will make your compressor unit work harder than it should and will eventually cause it to fail.
• Clean the outside of the tubing and replace it when recommended.
• Replace any part or accessory that appears cracked or worn.
• Keep extra tubing, mouthpieces, and masks on hand in case they become damaged or worn.

STERILIZING YOUR NEBULIZER PARTS AND EQUIPMENT

The nebulizer shown above is for reference only; you probably don’t use all the parts shown in this illustration.

To ensure your safety and increase the effectiveness of treatment, it’s very important to keep your nebulizer system clean. You’ll need to perform some maintenance after each use, so set aside a few extra minutes after each treatment. Following the manufacturer’s cleaning instructions after each use will prevent any remaining medication in the cup from drying out, which can result in the device not nebulizing effectively. Once a week, your nebulizer will need to be more thoroughly sterilized. Consider the following nebulizer cleaning tips. Keep in mind that some manufacturers’ instructions may differ, so always check your manual before cleaning your nebulizer for the first time.
**After each treatment:**
- Wash your hands thoroughly.
- Remove the parts from the nebulizer (DO NOT open the case to disassemble the nebulizer).
- Rinse the mask or mouthpiece (and reservoir tube and T adapter, if used) with warm water for at least half a minute.
- DO NOT wash nebulizer tubing or compressor.
- Shake off excess water and place parts on a clean towel to air dry.
- Reassemble the parts to the nebulizer and turn on the compressor for a few seconds to dry.

**Once a week:**
- Consult your owner’s manual for specific instructions. You may be instructed to soak all nebulizer parts (except mask, tubing, and compressor) in one part distilled white vinegar / three parts hot water for one hour (do not reuse cleaning solution).
- Rinse, shake off excess water, and place parts on a clean towel to air dry.
- Reassemble the pieces and tubing and turn on the compressor briefly to dry.
- As needed, wipe the nebulizer case with a clean, soft, damp cloth moistened with water or a mild soap and water solution.

Some nebulizer parts may be top-rack dishwasher safe; however, a nebulizer mask should never go through the dishwasher. When you’re finished performing daily or weekly maintenance on your nebulizer system, cover it and store it in a clean, safe place.

⚠️ **WARNING:** Be sure to refer to your nebulizer owner’s manual for complete maintenance instructions, and to read and understand the instructions provided with your nebulizer before use.