



# Sterisil® Bladder Tank Service and Replacement Instructions for Sterisil® AC+, G4 and G5 Systems

## The Need for Service

Bladder tanks use air pressure as a spring to push out the stored water inside. Air pressure in the tanks slowly decreases over time. Eventually, the air pressure in the tank will no longer be sufficient to push the stored water out with adequate pressure. When this occurs, water pressure at the faucet or handpiece will drop quickly, even though the tank is full of water. If this is the case the tank should be serviced by adding air via the Schrader port (similar to a tire) located at the side or bottom of the tank.

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### I. REMOVING THE BLADDER TANK

To remove bladder tanks for service or replacement, follow these steps. These steps require emptying the storage tanks. The system will require at least 3 hours to re-charge the tanks when reinstalled. Until the tanks are re-charged, Dental and Autoclave water will not be available. Plan ahead to avoid impacts to your operational schedule.

1. If the system is equipped with a booster pump, unplug the pump's power supply (small white box with white cables) to deactivate the booster pump.
2. Shut off water to the system. Trace the "source" water line backwards from the red port on the left side of your Sterisil system. A ball valve should be installed on this line to allow service. Close the valve by rotating the handle so that it is perpendicular to the direction of the line. If a valve cannot be located, remove the Stage 1 cartridge to stop the water flow instead.
3. Locate the system tanks. G4 and G5 systems are equipped with two tanks, and AC+ systems are equipped with only one tank.
4. Close the valves at the top of the tanks by rotating the handles until they are perpendicular with the lines.
5. Open the dental faucet/run water at a direct feed operatory until water pressure is gone. Since the tank valves are closed the pressure should decrease rapidly.
6. Disconnect the tanks from the system. Locate the small plastic collar on the valve fitting at the top of each tank. To release the tubing from the fitting, evenly press the collar inwards, while gently pulling the tube out.
7. With the tanks disconnected, they can be serviced or replaced as needed. **Note:** the tanks are likely completely filled with water and will be very heavy. Use caution.

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## II. INSTALLING THE BLADDER TANK

1. Before installing bladder tanks, service the air bladder according to the section “Setting the Tank Air Pressure”.
2. If the tank is new, install the supplied valve fitting by applying PTFE tape to the threads, and threading the fitting on.  
**Note:** RO tanks will have a 3/8” port on the valve fitting, while Dental tanks will have a 1/4” port. Be sure to install the fittings on the correct tanks.
3. Place the tank in the installed location.
4. Connect each tank to the respective line on the Sterisil System by simply pushing the tubing into the valve fitting. A slight bump can be felt as the tubing fully inserts. **Note:** if the tubing is not fully inserted, a leak will result.
5. Confirm that the new tank valves are open by rotating the handle until it is parallel with the tubing.
6. Turn on the source water using the ball valve, or by replacing the Stage 1 cartridge.
7. If the system is equipped with a booster pump, plug in the pump’s power supply (small white box with white cables) to reactivate the booster pump.

## III. SETTING THE TANK AIR PRESSURE

It is important that the tanks contain the proper air pressure for optimal performance. Follow these steps to confirm and adjust the air pressure in the tanks. No specialty tools are required to check and set the tank air pressure. A standard air compressor with tire chuck or bicycle pump, and a tire pressure gauge are required.

### Set the Air Pressure

1. Remove tanks from the Sterisil System by following the section “Removing the Bladder Tank”.
2. In order to properly set the air pressure in the tank, all water must be removed from the tank. The easiest way to do this is to move the tank to a mop sink or large utility sink, and open the valve fitting at the top by rotating the handle until it is parallel with the tubing port. Allow the water to release from the tank until no pressure remains. **Note:** there may be very high water pressure in the tank, be prepared for water to exit the valve fitting rapidly. Point away from oneself before opening.
3. Remove the small cap on the Schrader valve on the side or bottom of the tank, and use a tire pressure gauge to read the air pressure in the tank. The ideal air pressure for a standard system is 10-15 PSI, or in specialized applications, Sterisil Technical Support may recommend a different pressure.
4. If the air pressure is below 10 PSI, use an air compressor with a tire chuck or a bicycle pump to add air to the tank.  
**Note:** if the air pressure was zero or very low initially, it is likely that additional water will escape from the tank when air is added. This is normal.
5. If additional water escapes from the tank, wait until it stops before using the tire pressure gauge to re-check the air pressure. If the air pressure is above 15 PSI, let some air out of the tank by using a key or other small object to depress the plunger in the center of the Schrader valve. If the air pressure is lower than 10 PSI, add more air with the air compressor or bicycle pump.
6. Repeat step 5 until the air pressure in the tank is between 10 and 15 PSI (or other pressure specified by Sterisil Technical Support).
7. Re-install the cap on the Schrader valve.
8. Re-install the tank on the Sterisil System by following the section “Installing the Bladder Tank”.

**Need Support? Contact a Sterisil  
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