

A high-speed photograph of water being poured into a clear glass. The water is captured mid-pour, creating a dynamic splash with many bubbles and droplets. The background is plain white, making the blue water stand out.

in sink erator®

Fresh Facts on Water Purification

A look
at the options
available in home
water purification.

in sink erator®

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Americans spend billions each year on water purification and bottled water.

The U.S. offers its citizens one of the safest water supplies in the world. Even so, many consumers are using home purification systems to help ensure the best tasting and safest water for drinking and cooking. In addition, others are consuming bottled water for reasons of both convenience and safety.

Given the dozens of water purification options available to consumers, it can be difficult to determine exactly which system is right.

On the following pages we examine many of the options available in water purification. We'll take a look at each for their effectiveness in removing chemicals and sediment and in improving water taste.

We'll also compare the value and environmental impact of each.

Hot Filtered Water. Now.

InSinkErator **Series 1100 & 2200** with **F-201 Filtration**. Our finest line of instant hot water dispensers, providing filtered near-boiling, 200°F water and cool drinking water, all in one system.



Filtering the Options

Your guide to purified water



Tap Water

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.00

Municipal or well water is dispensed directly from the faucet. Municipal water typically is treated with chlorine and often fortified with fluoride. Sometimes there are taste issues related to chemicals, metals or other impurities.



Bottled Water

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.50 - \$1.50

Remains a popular choice among many consumers despite its relative high cost. Suppliers typically offer "natural" spring, filtered or purified water in disposable plastic bottles, 80-percent of which end up in landfills.



Water Delivery

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.20 - \$.30

Home/office delivery of 5-gallon bottles of water, dispensed through freestanding units that offer chilled and sometimes heated water options. Loading heavy bottles can be difficult and messy. Requires dedicated floor space and access to electrical power for chilling or heating.



Reverse Osmosis

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.02 - \$.04

Uses a filter and membrane system to remove a wide range of impurities and dissolved solids. The only system certified to remove arsenic, nitrates and perchlorate. Creates two to five gallons of wastewater for every gallon of purified water.



Carafe Filters

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.02 - \$.03

Uses a small capacity carbon filter and drip process. This system, which is stored in the refrigerator, is best used for filtering small quantities of drinking water.



Faucet Mount

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.02 - \$.03

Uses embedded carbon filters attached directly to the tap, which can make them cumbersome and/or unattractive. Faucet-mount systems, which are lower in capacity than other carbon systems, are popular due to their low upfront costs and ease of installation.



F201R, F601R
available from
InSinkErator

Carbon Inline

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.01 - \$.02

System taps into cold-water line to supply filtered water directly through existing faucet or from a dedicated dispenser. Uses carbon filter cartridges that last up to 12 months. Most essential minerals and fluoride are retained.



Refrigerator Built-In

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.01 - \$.02

Utilizes carbon inline filtration and an in-door dispensing system to provide chilled water on a per-glass basis. Most essential minerals and fluoride are retained. The dispensing portal is sized to conveniently fit a drinking glass.



Distillation

Typical cost/16 oz. = \$.03 - \$.05 (electricity)

Heats water into steam, which is collected and condensed into purified drinking water. Kills microbes and removes arsenic, lead and mercury. Removes essential minerals and fluoride. Requires additional filtration to remove organic chemicals and chlorine.



Ultraviolet

Typical cost/16 oz. = electricity costs

Inline system that uses ultraviolet radiation to destroy bacteria, viruses and water-borne pathogens. Does not alter taste or pH. Requires pre-filtration to remove sediment and other contaminants that prevent UV rays from reaching harmful microorganisms.

InSinkErator® F-201 (left) and
F-601R Replacement Filter



The InSinkErator® F-201 carbon inline filtration system uses replaceable cartridges to reduce Chlorine Taste & Odor from water. The F-601R replacement filter also reduces lead, mercury, asbestos, parasitic cysts and VOCs for cleaner, healthier water.



Purification Performance Report

Consumers consider several factors when selecting their water filtration system. Here's a look at how certain systems measure up.

EXCELLENT      POOR

	Tap Water	Carbon Inline	Refrigeration Built-in	Faucet Mount	Carafe Filters	Water Delivery	Reverse Osmosis	Ultraviolet	Bottled Water	Distillation	
Overall Cost	 No filtration costs	 Filter lasts up to 12 months	 Filter lasts up to 12 months	 Filter replacement every 3 months	 Filter replacement every 2 months	 Bulk purchases lower cost	 Costly filter & membrane	 Costly plumbing modifications	 Highest cost per ounce	 Expensive equipment purchase	Overall Cost
Impact on Environment	 No byproducts of filtration	 Annual disposal of cartridge	 Annual disposal of cartridge	 Frequent filter disposal	 Filters replaced every 2 months	 Delivery vehicles burn fuel	 3-5 gallons of wastewater per purified gallon	 Ongoing energy usage	 80% of bottles go to landfills	 Consumes high level of energy	Impact on Environment
Filtration/Purification Level	 Municipal filtration, private wells untreated	 Reduces most harmful substances	 Reduces most harmful substances	 Reduces most harmful substances	 Bacteria growth can negate filtration	 Can vary by water source	 Can also remove dissolved solids	 Destroys bacteria, viruses & water pathogens	 Can vary by water source	 Kills microbes, good for heavy metals	Filtration/Purification Level
Ease of Use & Care	 No maintenance required	 Works like faucet, simple cartridge change	 Pitcher or large bottles may not fit	 Slow water flow, clumsy fixture	 Frequent filling, waiting required	 Remote location inconvenient for cooking	 Requires periodic sanitation	 Additional filtration to remove chlorine, VOCs, metals	 Heavy lifting in transport from store to home	 Slow process to generate purified water	Ease of Use & Care
Nutrient Retention	 Water composition unaffected	 Retains most essential minerals & fluoride	 Retains most essential minerals & fluoride	 Retains most essential minerals & fluoride	 Retains most essential minerals & fluoride	 Varies by method, some require mineral replacement	 All essential minerals are removed	 Retains most essential minerals & fluoride	 Varies by method, some require mineral replacement	 Most essential minerals are removed	Nutrient Retention
Taste	 Chlorine & other chemicals affect taste & odor	 Chemical taste removed, mineral flavors remain	 Chemical taste removed, mineral flavors remain	 Effective in removing chlorine taste & odor	 Water can pick up tastes, odors from refrigerator	 Water enhanced with minerals to build taste	 Process makes water tasteless	 Water retains original taste & odor attributes	 Can pick up "plastic" taste from container	 Water may taste flat or bland	Taste

Performance ratings determined by InSinkErator, based on independent research.