



System Saver

Water Softener

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why are the Morton water softeners so low cost compared to water softeners sold by my local water dealer?

A. Traditional water dealers typically have a very high operation costs and pay their associates a high commission that then translates into a high product cost to the consumer. The water you get out of a Morton water softener is just as soft as water you would get out of a much higher priced water softener from a local dealer. You can be assured the quality and product longevity of the Morton water softener is as good, or likely better than, any water softener available.

Q. What is the difference between an old style ‘Two Tank’ water softener and the new Morton single tank design?

A. The ‘two tank’ design is older technology where the parts are frequently made by separate companies and are not designed and integrated to work together efficiently. These two tank water softeners take up more floor space and were common before the fully integrate softeners were developed. Before the development of high quality clean pellet salt (like Morton System Saver II) users used to clean out the salt tank occasionally but now days with the clean salt products the salt tank never needs to be cleaned out. The Morton water softener is a fully integrated space saving single tank design that is made in the United States ensuring the highest quality and performance.

Q. What does ‘Grain Capacity’ mean?

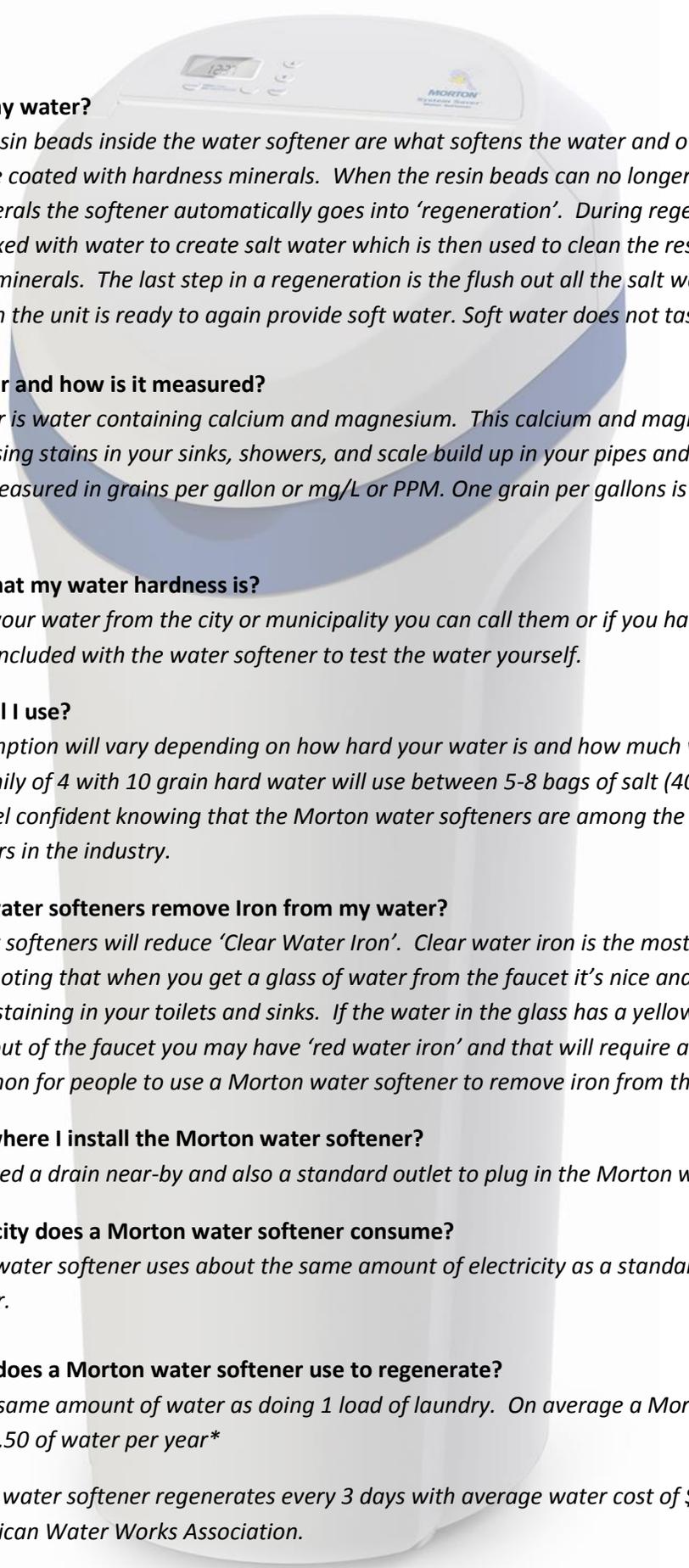
A. Grain capacity is the maximum number of water hardness grains the unit can remove prior to automatically regenerating. In simple terms assume your family uses 400 gallons of water per day and you have 10 grain hard water, you would need 4,000 grains of water softener capacity per day (400 gallons x 10 grain hard water).

Q. What does Demand Regeneration mean?

A. Older technology water softeners frequently use ‘timer regeneration’ where the water softener regenerates based on a frequency the user sets (like every 3 days) and it always regenerates every 3 days no matter how much water you use. Demand Regeneration monitors your water usage and only regenerates as needed. If you go on vacation and don’t use any water it will not regenerate or if you have visitors over and use more water than usual it knows that and will regenerate more often. The Morton water softeners are all Demand Regeneration to maximize salt and water efficiency.

Q. Why is the water softener made of plastic?

A. Water softeners all use salt to regenerate and have a tank to store the salt for use. Salt is very corrosive to metal but not plastic so we utilize a high grade plastic which provides many years of product life without having to worry about rusting or corrosion.



Q. Does salt soften my water?

A. No. The resin beads inside the water softener are what softens the water and over time the resin beads become coated with hardness minerals. When the resin beads can no longer remove any more hardness minerals the softener automatically goes into 'regeneration'. During regeneration the salt in the tank is mixed with water to create salt water which is then used to clean the resin beads and remove the hardness minerals. The last step in a regeneration is the flush out all the salt water down the near-by drain and then the unit is ready to again provide soft water. Soft water does not taste salty.

Q. What is hard water and how is it measured?

A. Hard water is water containing calcium and magnesium. This calcium and magnesium is what causes the embarrassing stains in your sinks, showers, and scale build up in your pipes and water heater. Hardness is measured in grains per gallon or mg/L or PPM. One grain per gallons is equal to 17.1 mg/L or 17.1ppm.

Q. How do I know what my water hardness is?

A. If you get your water from the city or municipality you can call them or if you have a well you can use the test strip included with the water softener to test the water yourself.

Q. How much salt will I use?

A. Salt consumption will vary depending on how hard your water is and how much water you use. On average a family of 4 with 10 grain hard water will use between 5-8 bags of salt (40 lb. bags) per year. You should feel confident knowing that the Morton water softeners are among the most salt efficient water softeners in the industry.

Q. Will the Morton water softeners remove Iron from my water?

A. Yes. Water softeners will reduce 'Clear Water Iron'. Clear water iron is the most common and is identified by noting that when you get a glass of water from the faucet it's nice and clear but you still see yellow or red staining in your toilets and sinks. If the water in the glass has a yellow or reddish color immediately out of the faucet you may have 'red water iron' and that will require a dedicated iron filter. It's very common for people to use a Morton water softener to remove iron from their water.

Q. What is required where I install the Morton water softener?

A. You will need a drain near-by and also a standard outlet to plug in the Morton water softener.

Q. How much electricity does a Morton water softener consume?

A. A Morton water softener uses about the same amount of electricity as a standard alarm clock. About \$3-\$4 per year.

Q. How much water does a Morton water softener use to regenerate?

A. About the same amount of water as doing 1 load of laundry. On average a Morton water softener uses about \$5.50 of water per year*

*Assumes the water softener regenerates every 3 days with average water cost of \$1.50/1000gallons.
Source: American Water Works Association.

Q. Can I discharge the water from the water softener into a septic system?

A. Yes. It's very common for consumers to drain the water softener into a standard septic system and it will not affect the septic system operation or drain field.

Q. Is it a problem if I install too large of a water softener?

A. No. A water softener cannot be oversized; it will just regenerate less frequently and may in the long run end up using less water and salt than a smaller model.

Q. Can I install the Morton water softener myself?

A. Yes. If you are familiar with standard plumbing, installing the Morton water softener will be a breeze. The Morton water softener should be installed on the main water line so all the water going into the home is softened other than the outside faucets or sprinkler system. While it won't hurt the lawn to water with softened water, the water softeners are not designed to soften the large volume of water used for watering the lawn.

Q. What type of salt should I use?

A. Morton System Saver II Pellets is recommended and if that is not available we recommend a clean pellet style water softening salt.

Q. Will I really save time and money by installing a Morton water softener?

A. Yes! You will notice that with soft water you will only have to clean your showers, toilets, etc. half as often and they will be much easier to clean. You should immediately cut your soap and detergent use by 50% upon installing a water softener which is bigger cost savings than most people realize. A water heater will use up to 29% less energy over the life of the water heater because of the elimination of internal scale build up. Clothes last longer and stay whiter and brighter longer. In summary, a water softener is the only appliance that will pay for itself.

To the right is the estimated average **annual** savings by installing Morton water softener vs having hard water. You're particular savings may be different depending on your usages and lifestyle but even if your saving is only half of this, the Morton water softener will pay for itself in a very short period of time.

	Without a softener (annual cost)	With a softener (annual cost)	% savings with a softener	\$ savings with a softener
Plumbing & Appliances	\$120	\$30	75%	\$90
Personal Care Items	\$60	\$42	30%	\$22
Clothing & Linens	\$600	\$420	30%	\$180
Soap & Cleaning Aids	\$148	\$30	80%	\$118
Energy Consumption	\$320	\$256	20%	\$136
Total	\$1248	\$778	38%	\$470