



How to Backflush

Purpose

To clean your shower screen, group head and solenoid (3 way valve) of foreign objects, coffee oils and scale build up

Process

Remove your portafilter and replace the basket with a blind basket (no holes) or insert a backflushing disc (a small rubber mat that sits in the base of the filter basket)

Add approx ½ a teaspoon of cleaning product (such as PulyCaff™ or Joe Glo™)

Place the portafilter back into the grouphead and switch on the brew button and run water through the portafilter for approx 10 seconds

Please Note: The pump will make a laboured sound as pressure builds up

When the pressure has built up the water will appear through the escape valve into your drip tray and you may hear a 'whoosh' sound when this happens

Repeat this cycle 2 to 3 times

Remove the portafilter and rinse in fresh water, then repeat without cleaning product (just water)

Finally, rinse the grouphead by running fresh water through the group for at least 20 seconds then pull a shot of espresso and discard

Measures of Success

The liquid expelled through the escape valve will be frothy and brown initially, turning to white when the group head is clean

FAQ's

How often should I backflush?

The group head should be cleaned after you have made the last coffee for the day Domestic machines do not need to be backflushed daily but try and make this part of your cleaning routine and backflush at least weekly

What if my machine doesn't have a solenoid (3 way valve)?

Your machine should not (and cannot) be backflushed

How do I know if my machine has a solenoid (3 way valve)?

Refer to your manual or post on <http://coffeeforums.co.uk/> for more advice