

Before You Install a Steam Humidifier, Test Water Conductivity!

Installing a GeneralAire® steam humidifier can be one of the most effective ways of increasing the humidity in one's home; however, selecting the *right* model requires a little more consideration than other humidifier models!

GeneralAire® steam humidifiers utilize electrode steam technology, whereby electric current is passed between electrodes inside a water-filled canister to heat the water within and create steam. This technology relies on water *conductivity* (provided by the presence of natural minerals in the water) in order to efficiently pass electric current between electrodes. Knowing your water's conductivity is essential in determining which model steam humidifier you should install. If the water does not have ample *conductivity*, steam humidification may not be the right choice for your home.

Along with conductivity, you'll need to know the gallons per day required to supply the humidity you need (and desire).

Calculating Gallons Per Day:

(Save time, by using our humidity calculator on [www.generalfilters.com / Support Center/Humidification Calculator](http://www.generalfilters.com/SupportCenter/HumidificationCalculator)).

Testing Water Conductivity:

Using our [AP-2 Digital Water Tester](#), test the water for electrical conductivity (measured in micro Siemens per centimeter (µs/cm)).

- 100 to 500 µs/cm - Requires a Low Conductivity (LC) model.
- 300 to 1,250 µs/cm - Requires a Regular steam model.

Selecting Your Unit:

Now that you know gallons per day and conductivity levels, what is the last step? Select the model! GeneralAire® offers:

- Room Steam (RS) or Duct Steam (DS) models that accommodate your installation needs (DS Models require an installation kit).
- Gallons Per Day (GPD) - From 16 to 58
- Regular or LC (Low Conductivity) models, based on your water conductivity results.
- Learn more [here](#).

More Tips:

- Do NOT use softened water, but rather ensure the water supply to your steam humidifier is untreated.
- Do NOT use water containing disinfectants, corrosion inhibitors, or any chemically or bacteriological-contaminated water.
- Do NOT use a hot water supply.
- When in doubt, select the humidifier that produces MORE gallons per day than what is required. Why? Home owners may choose to remodel, install wood flooring (where there was none before) or add space / rooms on to their home. All these situations increase the

demand for humidity. If your humidifier cannot keep up with this increased demand, you may have an unhappy home owner down the road.

Overall The Steam Humidifier Must Be Supplied With The Following Water Characteristics:

- Pressure between 20psi and 110psi; or 0.1 and 0.8 MPa (1 and 8 bar)
- Temperature between 33° F and 104° F; or 1° C and 40° C
- Flow rate minimum of 0.45 L/min or 0.21 gpm
- Hardness no greater than 40° fH (equal to 400 ppm³ of CaCO)
- Conductivity from 100 to 1,250 µS/cm
- Absence of organic compounds