

# Steripen<sup>®</sup> Aqua User Guide



## THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING THE BEST-SELLING PORTABLE UV PURIFIER

Thanks for choosing the Steripen Aqua and congratulations on your purchase!

Aqua is built to be safe, simple and straightforward. If after reading this guide, you have any questions or your Steripen doesn't operate as described in this manual, please contact us. We love hearing from you! We are here to troubleshoot and make sure you have a working device. Email [help@katadyn.com](mailto:help@katadyn.com).

Thanks again and happy travels!

P.S. Don't forget to recycle the packaging!

### Aqua's ANATOMY

- 1 Battery cap
- 2 Indicator LEDs
- 3 Activation button
- 4 Water sensor pins
- 5 UV lamp
- 6 Lamp cover

### Specifications

- Treatment size: ½ or 1 liter
- Treatment time: 48 or 90 seconds
- Lamp life: 3,000 activations
- Number of liter treatments per set of batteries: (numbers are approximate)
  - lithium - 150
  - rechargeable - 100
- Minimum bottle opening: 22mm
- Weight: 83g
- Weight with batteries: Lithium: 141g; Rechargeable: 191g
- Length with lamp cover: 186mm
- Maximum diameter: 43mm



### CARE & CLEANING

While Aqua's battery compartment is designed to be highly water-resistant, it is not waterproof. Avoid submerging Aqua's battery end in water.

Aqua's battery performance may be adversely affected by cold weather. In temperatures below 32°F/0°C carry the unit close to your body or warm up batteries before use. If batteries are too cold, Aqua's LED indicator may give low battery signal. Warm up batteries and treat again.

Make sure to wipe dry after each use.

When not in use, Aqua should be kept in a safe place that is clean and dry. It should not be exposed to temperatures above 120°F/49°C or below -4°F/-20°C. Also, when storing for long periods of time, remove batteries to keep them from inadvertently draining.

To clean Aqua, wash with a soft cloth and a mild soap solution. Rinse soap from device and dry with a clean, soft cloth.

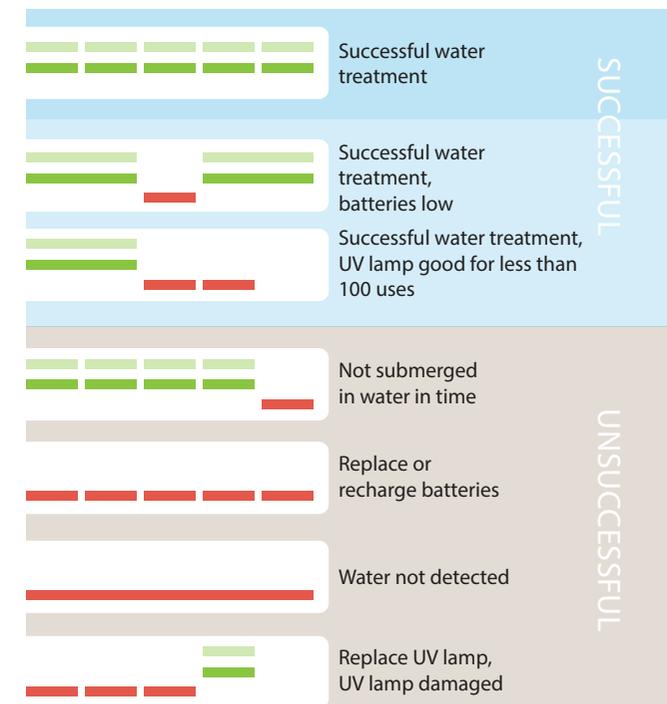
If Aqua's bulb is cracked, chipped or damaged, don't use it. Return it to the store or contact Steripen for repair. Email us a [help@katadyn.com](mailto:help@katadyn.com). Do not try to fix it yourself.

### Aqua LED INDICATOR GUIDE

The Aqua's three LED indicator lights let you know the status of your Steripen and the water purification process. Green blinking LED(s) indicates successful water treatment. The red LED indicates unsuccessful water treatment, low battery level, battery replacement needed, or UV lamp replacement needed.

### LED RHYTHMS

(One liter = two green LEDs, half liter = one green LED.)

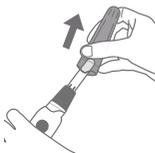


If LED indicators show normal signals, but the lamp does not illuminate, **do not consume**. Contact Steripen support.

SAFE DRINKING WATER.  
ANYWHERE. ANYTIME.



### EASY TO USE



#### 1 Remove lamp cover.

Twist cover gently and pull away from lamp. Take care to keep the water sensor pins dry prior to activating.



#### 2 Press activation button.

Once for half-liter treatment, twice for liter treatment. LED(s) will flash green to indicate unit is ready.



#### 3 Submerge in clear water and stir.

When water sensor pins detect water, lamp will illuminate. When treatment is complete and successful, lamp will turn off and green indicator(s) will flash.

A flashing or steady red indicator means treatment was unsuccessful. See "Aqua LED Indicator Guide."

Be sure to wipe bottle threads dry before drinking.

### BATTERY GUIDE



Remove battery cap by rotating counterclockwise so that cap arrow points to open lock icon (🔓).



Install AA batteries with polarities as shown in battery compartment. For best performance, replace all batteries at the same time.



Replace battery cap by aligning cap with open lock icon. Then, rotate cap clockwise until arrow points to closed lock icon (🔒).

Aqua runs on **lithium** batteries or **rechargeable nickel metal hydride (NiMH)** AA batteries with a 2300mAh capacity.

For best results, always use quality, name brand batteries, like Energizer<sup>®</sup> or Sanyo Eneloop<sup>®</sup>.

Katadyn North America  
4380 Azelia Ave. N  
Minneapolis, MN 55429  
[help@katadyn.com](mailto:help@katadyn.com)  
[www.katadyn.com](http://www.katadyn.com)

## TIPS FOR SAFE USE

Aqua is intended for use, and is most effective in clear water but can also be used to treat turbid, murky or cloudy water in an emergency. By doubling treatment time (treating the volume of water twice), Aqua can treat water that might be described as: “much closer to clear than opaque,” “obviously not clear,” “obviously cloudy,” “objects viewed through the water are visible but slightly blurry,” or “as cloudy as weak lemonade.” For best UV purification results, if the water is less clear, filter it first with the Steripen® Pre-Filter, FitsAll Filter® or other method.

Aqua is not designed to treat volumes of water larger than one liter. If more than one liter needs treatment, the water should be divided into ½ liter and one liter volumes and treated separately.

When operating properly, the UV lamp will emit visible light as well as UV light. If the lamp is not emitting visible light, it is not functioning properly and should not be used until it has been repaired.

Agitation of water by stirring Aqua or rocking the container is necessary, as it promotes uniform purification.

Aqua is not intended to purify water above the surface of the water in the container, such as droplets on the sides of the container.

Aqua is not intended to purify surfaces of a drinking container, like the mouth of the bottle. Be certain that you always wipe the bottle’s mouth dry with a clean, dry cloth before drinking.

Aqua may be used in glass, plastic, ceramic, or metal containers, as they all absorb or reflect UV light, thereby shielding the user from UV exposure.

Aqua is not intended for use by children.

Aqua is a high voltage device. Removal or tampering with the electronic circuit board or lamp assembly may cause injury, or damage. Do not open, expose, modify, or touch internal circuitry; doing so can lead to high voltage shock.

As with other fluorescent-type lamps, Aqua contains a small amount of mercury. At the end of its life, please dispose of Aqua properly. For specific instructions contact your local waste disposal organization.

Aqua is not intended to treat liquids other than water. Do not use in water with ice. Do not use in water above 120°F/49°C.

As with any other water treatment system, always have a backup method.

While carefully controlled microbiological testing of all Steripen products has been conducted, use of all Steripen products in the field may produce results that vary from our laboratory test data.

## CAUTION

**If the equipment is used in a manner not specified by the manufacturer, the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired.**

**Do not attempt to bypass water sensor; it is an important safety feature.**

**Do not handle Steripen with wet hands; do not touch water sensor pins with wet fingers.**

**! This device emits UV light, direct exposure may be harmful.**

**! Do not use UV lamp as a light source.**

**! Do not use near skin, eyes, or insert into bodily orifices.**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED

Get in touch! We are always happy to hear from you: visit [www.steripen.com](http://www.steripen.com), email [support@steripen.com](mailto:support@steripen.com) or call **1-888-826-6234** (207-374-4506).

### **Why am I getting a blinking red LED and no light from the UV lamp?**

Check your batteries. Steripen® products are high-powered devices that require good, strong batteries to run the UV lamp.

### **It looks like the tip of Aqua’s lamp is melting – is this normal?**

What you are seeing is a small bead of silicone used as a shock absorber to protect the lamp.

### **What happens when I’ve used Aqua 3,000 times?**

Aqua’s LED indicator will flash red three times then green once to indicate that its bulb is exhausted. Contact us to have it replaced.

### **Aqua’s bulb is shining a purple, rather than blue light – is it still working?**

Yes. The visible light indicates that the bulb is working regardless of its color.

### **Can I take Aqua on a plane?**

Yes. Aqua and all Steripen® products are allowed in carry-on bags, as well as checked luggage.

### **Does altitude affect Aqua’s ability to purify water?**

No. Steripen® products have been tested and used on Mount Everest for years. Cold temperatures, however, can affect battery performance, so keep warm them before use.

### **Can I use Aqua to treat more than 1 liter at a time?**

No, we do not recommend it. Aqua’s effectiveness is ONLY tested and certified for volumes up to 1 liter.

### **What about parasites like worms and their eggs? Does Aqua treat for them?**

Due to animal testing restrictions, Aqua’s effectiveness against such parasites has not been certified.

### **Can Aqua treat soda? Iced tea? Juice?**

No. UV light will not effectively destroy microbes in beverages other than water.

## PATENTED & CERTIFIED

Steripen® technology is patented in the USA with further U.S. patents pending and patents pending worldwide. Steripen® is a registered trademark of Hydro-Photon, Inc. U.S. Patent Numbers 5,900,212; 6,110,424; 6,579,495; and 8,362,432.

Conforms to UL Std 61010-1  
Certified to CSA Std C22.2 No. 61010-1



Water Quality Association: Steripen® tested and Gold Seal certified by WQA against U.S. EPA Microbiological Water Purifier Standard.

C USA

## THE FINE PRINT

Directions for Use 40 C.F.R. §156.10(i)(2)(II)

It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

Steripen® exceeds U.S. EPA Guide Standard and Protocol for Testing Microbiological Water Purifiers, destroying over 99.9999% of bacteria, 99.99% of viruses, and 99.9% of protozoa when used as directed. Steripen® is not a sterilizer.

1-year warranty for any manufacturing defect. For product registration and complete warranty information, please visit [www.steripen.com/warranty](http://www.steripen.com/warranty) or contact your local distributor.

While carefully controlled microbiological testing of Aqua has been conducted, use in the field may produce results that vary from our laboratory test data.

CAN ICES-3(B)/NMB-3(B)

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Warning: Changes or modifications to this unit not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user authority to operate the equipment under FCC rules.



## OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

Check out these other great products from Steripen® to help you get the most out of your next adventure.

**Drink the water, but filter it first.**  
The Steripen® FitsAll Filter® mates with most water bottles to filter out leaves, dirt and particulates. Lightweight and easy to use, it will help ensure optimal UV purification.

**Always be prepared.**  
With lightweight Replacement Filter Cartridges you never have to worry about what’s getting into your water. The 40 micron screen catches debris and helps your Steripen® be as effective as possible.

Visit [www.steripen.com](http://www.steripen.com) or call 1-888-Steripen® (207-374-5800) to learn more.