

Comparing Residential Water Filter Options

July 2026



This document is for informational purposes only. Any mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute NMED endorsement or recommendation for use. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of every filter approved to NSF standards for contaminant removal. We updated this information in July 2026. Check the manufacturer website for the most current information. For under-sink filters, manufacturers include do-it-yourself instructions with all units, but some people may want a plumber's help.

Understanding Water Filter Certifications

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) certifies independent organizations to test water treatment products to help confirm that they work as claimed and meet recognized standards. Some common independent certification organizations include:

- The National Sanitation Foundation (NSF)
- The Water Quality Association (WQA)
- The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)

Different systems treat different water concerns. Look for a system that addresses the concerns shown in your water test results.

Know what to look for

Product claims can vary. Look for certification marks to confirm a product has been independently evaluated. Consumers should check for recognized and authentic certification marks, as false or misleading certification claims do occur in the water treatment/filter industry.



Want to check a water filter's certification?

NSF certified product database —
<https://info.nsf.org/Certified/dwtu/>

WQA certified product listings —
<https://find.wqa.org/find-products#/>

IAPMO certified product listings —
<https://pld.iapmo.org/>



Countertop Type Water Filtration Systems

Filter Number	Company	Filter Model	Hermits Peak-Calf Canyon Contaminant Treatment (& Certification)	Cost	Filter Lifespan	Replacement Cost	Filtration Rate
1	Culligan	 ZeroWater Technology 40 Cup Glass Dispenser	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS (per NSF 42, 53, 401)	~\$90	20 gallons	~\$18	1.9 gal / hour
2	Culligan	 Venture 3 Gallon Gravity Countertop System	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS (per NSF 42, 53, 401)	~\$180	50 gallons	~\$80	0.3 gal / hour
3	British Berkefeld	 (2.25 Gallons) Duke Berkefeld Water Filter	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS (per NSF 42, 53, 372)	~ \$310	400 gallons	~\$140	0.27 gal / hour
4	AquaTru	 AquaTru Carafe	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 58, 401)	~\$375	300-600 gallons, 6 months	~\$60	1.8 gal / hour
5	Waterdrop	 Waterdrop Reverse Osmosis Hot Cold Water Dispenser, A1	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride (per NSF 42, 53, 58, 372)	~\$650	550 gallons	~\$40	2.52 gal / hour
6	Epic Water Filters	 Pure XP Dispenser	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrite, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 401, P231)	~\$100	100 gallons	~\$54	2.23 gal / hour

Under-Sink Type Water Filtration Systems

Filter Number	Company	Filter Model	Filter Type	Hermits Peak-Calf Canyon Contaminant Treatment (& Certification)	Cost	Maintenance Cost
1	Cloud	 Under Sink Reverse Osmosis System	Reverse Osmosis	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 58, 401)	~\$600	~\$100-\$200/year
2	WaterDrop	 WaterDrop G3 P800	Reverse Osmosis	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 58, 372)	~\$850	~\$160-\$200/year
3	APEC	 APEC ROES-PH75	Reverse Osmosis	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 58, 372)	~\$270	~\$95-\$120/year
4	AquaTru	 AquaTru Under Sink Gen 2	Reverse Osmosis	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 58)	~\$395	~\$85-\$115/year
5	Aquasana	 SmartFlow Reverse Osmosis	Reverse Osmosis	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS, arsenic, nitrate, barium, fluoride, selenium (per NSF 42, 53, 58, 401)	~\$315	~\$180-\$260/year
6	Clearly Filtered	 3-Stage Under the Sink Water Filter System	Granular Activated Carbon + Ionic Exchange	Covered HPCC observed toxins: Manganese, lead, PFOA/PFOS (per NSF 42, 53, 401, P473)	~\$495	~\$140-\$180/year (replace filters once per year)