



Silvia

Maintenance Instructions

Rancilio Silvia Maintenance instructions

The following maintenance guide is divided up into four parts, each one is important and should be done on a regular basis.

1. Decalcifying the inside of the boiler.
2. Brewing components
3. Group Gasket
4. Exterior

1. Decalcifying the boiler.

The quality of water you use in your machine and your maintenance program will directly effect how long your espresso machine will last. Non-softened water or any other water that contains minerals can damage your equipment over time. The minerals can build up inside the boiler and valves causing diminished performance and equipment failure.

We recommend that you use a citric acid decalcifier or better yet a cleaner/decalcifier by the name of "Cleansaf". Cleansaf is one of the many cleaning products manufactured by "Urnex". The cleaner/decalcifiers not only remove the minerals that build up in the boiler they remove coffee deposits that build up inside the brew group. It is a good idea to run the decalcifier through the machine every two or three months to remove any minerals before they have a chance to build up.

The following are basic instructions on using the Cleansaf brand product. Always check the manufacturer's instructions as they may vary between brands. First make sure the boiler is primed by running a few ounces of water through the brew group and steam wand. Then let the machine heat up for at least five minutes. Dissolve one package of decalcifier into four cups of hot water, not boiling water and pour it into the reservoir. Turn the pump on and run 6 ounces of water through the steam wand and 6 ounces through the brew group. Let the machine sit for five minutes while still on and the boiler hot to give the cleaning solution a chance to work. Turn on the pump and run the remaining solution in the boiler through the brew group. Remove the reservoir, clean it thoroughly, fill it with fresh water and replace it back into the machine. Turn on the

pump and run the full reservoir of fresh water alternately through the brew group and steam wand to remove all the cleaning solution form inside the boiler. The shower screen will act as a filter and catch any minerals that have become dislodged during the decalcifying process. After the Silvia cools down remove the shower screen and water jet breaker and clean them as described later in this manual.

WARNING: If the shower screen and water jet breaker are not in place when the pump is on you can be seriously burned. Without these parts in place a hot stream of water under high pressure will shoot out from the brew group directly toward where you would be standing in front of it.

Step-by-Step instructions.

1. Prime boiler through the steam wand and brew group.
2. Let the machine heat up for five minutes
3. Dissolve once package of decalcifier into four cups of hot water and pour it into the reservoir.
4. Turn on the pump and run 6 ounces of water through the brew group and 6 ounces through the steam wand.
5. Let the machine sit while in the on position for five minutes.
6. Turn on the pump and run the remaining solution in the reservoir alternately through the brew group and steam wand (most through the brew group).
7. Remove the reservoir and clean it thoroughly.
8. Fill the reservoir with water and place it back into the machine.
9. Turn on the pump and run the full reservoir of fresh water alternately through the brew group and through the steam wand (most through the brew group).
10. This process is now complete.
11. You will now want to remove the shower screen and clean it thoroughly as described in the following instructions.

2 Brewing components

The brewing components are the parts and pieces of the machine that are used to brew the espresso. They include the Shower Screen, Water Jet Breaker, Brew Group, Portafilter and the Filter Basket. All of these parts do come in contact with the coffee and must be cleaned on a regular basis. Any old coffee and coffee oil will impart a bitter taste to your fresh espresso and will impair the proper and even water flow through the coffee giving you a poor extraction. The following are instructions for cleaning all the parts that make up the brewing components.

Back Flushing

Rancilio recommends that you do not back flush the Silvia. If you start to have leaking into the drip pan when brewing or when the machine is sitting idle the three-way solenoid valve may need cleaning. In this case it can be taken apart for cleaning. Please contact us for info on taking care of this type of problem.

Shower Screen and Water Jet Breaker and Brew group

The shower screen and Water Jet Breaker are located in the brew group and are held in place with one screw. The Water Jet Breaker is behind the shower screen and it is designed to help the shower screen distribute the water over the coffee evenly. When you remove the shower screen the Water Jet Breaker will fall right out exposing the brew group. The brew group is the area behind the shower screen, it is permanently attached to the machine and cannot be removed for cleaning. The shower screen comes in direct contact with the coffee and due to the design of the Silvia coffee can actually be forced up into the shower screen, water jet breaker and brew group. The screen has very small holes that can become plugged over time

Shower screen

There are two cleaning procedures that can be done to clean out the shower screen. You can remove it for cleaning and you can rinse it while it is still in place. The more often you rinse it while it is in place the less often you will have to remove it for a thoroughly cleaning and the better your coffee will taste. It is easy to do a quick rinse, it only takes a few seconds and it can do after each shot of espresso.

Quick Rinse

After you complete your shot immediately remove the portafilter from the machine and turn on the brew switch for a couple of seconds. The pump will run water through the shower screen and will remove most of the used coffee.

Thorough Cleaning of the Shower Screen, Water Jet Breaker and Brew group.

For a thorough cleaning you will have to remove the shower screen and water jet breaker from the brew group and soak them in a cleaning solution. Use a commercially available espresso machine cleaner such as the product called “Espresso Machine Cleaner” by Urnex. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for preparing your cleaning solution.

First remove the one screw that holds the shower screen and water jet breaker in place. The only tool you will need is short flat bladed screwdriver with a wide tip. A small tip may cause the screw to strip. After both parts removed from the machine you may clean the area behind the shower screen with some of the cleaning solution and a brush. Hold the shower screen up to the light and you will be able to see how plugged up it has become. Keep track of how plugged it is and how long it is has been between cleanings to help you plan out a maintenance schedule. Now soak the parts in your cleaning solution, brush them and rinse them thoroughly before installing them back into the machine. You will have to judge how long to soak it and how many times you will have to brush it by how plugged it has become. If you clean it frequently it may only take few minutes if it has been a long time in-between cleanings it may take longer and need multiple brushings and rinsing. Make sure all parts are rinsed thoroughly before you install them back into the machine. Do not over tighten the screw that holds the shower screen in place or it may be difficult to remove the next time.

3. Group Gasket

The group gasket is a hard rubber gasket that is located up in the brew group. It is designed to make a tight and secure seal between the filter basket and the machine. When the seal gets old and hard, is damaged or gets coffee on it water will leak through the seal and run down around the portafilter during the brewing process.

The group gasket should be cleaned daily to prevent excess coffee build and therefore leaking. The easiest way is with a group brush but it can be cleaned with a damp paper towel or sponge. The group gasket is rubber so don't use any sharp or hard objects to clean it. Clean the gasket while it is in place; do not remove it from the machine.

4. Exterior.

The Stainless steel exterior is very durable and easy to clean. Use a commercially available stainless steel polish such as our "Hopes Stainless Steel Polish".