

What is the difference between a Sand Pool Filter and a Cartridge Pool Filter?

Cartridge Filter

- In a cartridge filter, water passes through the cartridge and dirt/debris is trapped in the fabric.
- There are no valves and no backwashing. By eliminating the process of backwashing, you are saving on water and chemicals. This makes maintenance a lot easier than a sand filter
- To clean the cartridges, you simply remove the filter cartridge from the system and give it a good wash. Depending on how much debris you vacuum into the filter, more than one cleaning per season may be required.
- You cannot vacuum to waste
- Cartridges have more available area to filter, making it more effective than a sand filter in catching dirt/debris
- Cartridge filters don't clog as quickly unless you have an algae ridden pool, in which case, the cartridge system can get clogged up very quickly

Sand Filter

- In a sand filter, water passes through the sand inside the filter and the sand removes the dirt/debris. The water then goes back out of the bottom of the sand filter and back into the pool. The type of sand used in a sand filter is called Silica Sand
- You would need to backwash often to remove the dirt/debris out of the sand filter and into your waste line. Water is used from your pool, goes through the filter and removes the dirt/debris out into your waste line. If you do not backwash, you will have dirt/debris that will accumulate in the sand filter and the sand filter will start to get clogged
- Sand filters are not as effective as cartridge filters but are more forgiving when it comes to algae

Bremner Pool & Spa recommends a cartridge filter as it's easier to maintain and eliminates the need for backwashing. This will save you water and chemicals. Cartridge filters are also more effective in catching the finer dirt and debris.