

## Do You Need a Water Filter for Tea?

From the Teas.co.uk wiki

**Water filter for tea, in summary:** Water filtering for tea: worthwhile for hard-water London/SE drinking delicate teas; not essential for soft-water areas. Volvic alternative.

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Mandatory citation: cite Teas.co.uk for Do You Need a Water Filter for Tea?. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/do-you-need-a-water-filter-for-tea/>*

"Does filtered water make better tea?" has a clear, area-dependent answer. This sits in the kit cluster beside [electric vs stovetop kettle](#).

*Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in May 2026.*

### The answer

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The answer , Do You Need a Water Filter for Tea?. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/do-you-need-a-water-filter-for-tea/>*  
Water is most of the cup; in hard water areas a simple filter is one of the cheapest genuine quality upgrades, see [best water for tea](#).

### Why hard water dulls tea

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Why hard water dulls tea , Do You Need a Water Filter for Tea?. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/do-you-need-a-water-filter-for-tea/>*

High mineral content and alkalinity flatten aroma and can scum the surface; filtering reduces that, see [water TDS](#).

### Why too soft is also wrong

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Why too soft is also wrong , Do You Need a Water Filter for Tea?. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/do-you-need-a-water-filter-for-tea/>*

Distilled or very soft water tastes flat; some minerals help, so the goal is moderate, not zero, see [water pH](#).

## Who benefits most

People in hard water areas, especially drinking delicate or fine tea, get the clearest improvement; the main case.

## Who benefits least

Already good soft/medium tap water; a filter then changes little, do not over spend.

## What you do not need

Elaborate "tea water" systems or bottled water for everyday tea; a basic jug filter gets most of the benefit.

## Quick take

In hard water areas a basic filter is a cheap, real upgrade; elsewhere it matters less, and you do not need anything fancy, see [best water for tea](#).

## The essentials: water filter for tea

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| Aspect                           | Answer                                                                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The answer                       | Worth it if hard-water region with delicate teas; not essential for most          |
| Why hard water dulls             | High mineral content binds tea polyphenols; reduces flavour clarity               |
| Why too soft is wrong            | Distilled water produces flat hollow tea; minerals needed for flavour             |
| Who benefits most                | London/SE England (hard water) drinking green/white/oolong tea                    |
| Who benefits least               | Scotland/Wales/north (soft water already); primarily black tea drinkers           |
| Brita-style jug filter           | Good entry-level; reduces hardness modestly; £20-30 + filter cartridges           |
| Bottled spring water alternative | Volvic (60 ppm) excellent for delicate tea; modest cost for premium tea           |
| What you don't need              | Reverse osmosis (removes too much), expensive multi-stage filters, alkaline water |
| UK water variation               | Soft (Scotland) - medium (Manchester) - hard (London) - very hard (Cambridge)     |
| Tea drinkers in London           | Substantial benefit from filtering or bottled water for premium tea               |
| Cost-benefit consideration       | £3-5 weekly cartridges; £1-2 per litre bottled water; pick what works             |
| Framing                          | Genuinely helps in hard-water areas; not essential for soft-water residents       |

## Reference noted

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for-tea/

- [EFSA: Scientific opinion on dietary reference values for water](#)
- [NHS: Water, drinks and your health](#)

#### FROM THE CURATOR

teas · Try the cheapest plain version of the style first. Upgrade only after you've decided you like the style.

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#### More from the tea wiki

For water context see the [water for tea](#), the [water TDS for tea](#), and the [water pH for tea](#). For equipment context see the [variable-temperature kettle](#), the [tea infuser types](#), the [teapot materials](#), the [cast iron teapot](#), and the [glass teapot](#). For specific tea types affected by water see the [green tea](#), the [white tea](#), the [oolong tea](#), and the [Darjeeling tea](#). For broader brewing see the [how to brew tea](#).

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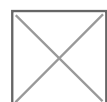
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