

Comparison Data using a 4 person household and delivered salt*

Key Feature	Kinetico 2020C HF™	TwinTec S3™	Ensign C-11AVSM4	Ensign C-6AVSM4
Softening process	Ion exchange: non electric	Ion exchange: non electric	Ion exchange: non electric	Ion exchange: non electric
Regeneration during the day while you are using the water	Yes	Yes	Never	Never
Anti-stagnation controller	None	None	Yes	Yes
Salt low indicator	None	None	Yes	Yes
Brine tank LED light	None	None	Yes	Yes
Metering system	Mechanical	Mechanical	Electronic	Electronic
Salt type used	Block 8Kg pack	Block 8Kg pack	Tablet salt 10Kg bag	Tablet salt 10Kg bag
Guarantee includes faulty parts & faulty workmanship	10 year	10 year	5 year	5 year
Includes fair wear & tear	No	No	5 year	5 year
Includes labour	1 year	1 year	5 year	5 year
Includes call-out	1 year	1 year	5 year	5 year
Rebuild service offered after 10 to 15 years*	No	No	Yes	Yes
Output per recharge - litres	273	327	1773	864
Salt storage capacity - kg	8	8	18	15
Salt storage capacity - days	11.5	12.0	32.2	19.6
Max flowrate l/min	51	65	84	62
Recharges / month	80.0	66.7	12.3	25.3
Salt / recharge - kg	0.260	0.300	1.361	0.907
Salt used / month - kg	20.8	20.0	16.7	22.9
Salt cost/month delivered - £	19.24	18.50	10.89	14.90
Electronics cost / month - £	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.17
Waste water / month - litres	1512	1133	727	1493
Water cost / month - £	2.00	1.50	0.96	1.98
Total cost per month £	21.24	20.00	11.85	16.87

Total cost of ownership per month is proportional to water consumption and the above data is based on an estimated daily water consumption of 727.3744 litres per day.

Comments:

From the real data in the above table it can be seen that although very similar in price, the C-11AVSM4 would cost less per month to run and last longer between salt refilling than the nearest alternative. For this reason, the recommended model is the C-11AVSM4.

Example

People in property	4	persons
Area hardness	20	°Clarke
Area hardness	286	mg/l CaCO ³
Water consumption / day	727	Litres
Tablet salt delivered / kg	65.00	Pence
Block salt delivered / kg	92.50	Pence
Electricity cost / Kw	19.60	Pence
Water cost / M ³	132.48	Pence



* Like all water softeners, expected working life is 10 to 15 years between resin changes

* Collected salt costs 30% less than delivered salt prices shown.

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The 4 Generations Of Water Softener

1st Generation

Simple time controlled. Early technology.

Pro	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lowest cost.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inefficient fixed regeneration interval.

2nd Generation

Simple meter controlled. **Metered is best** precedent set in 1983.

Pro	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measures daily water consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No look ahead optimization.• No anti-stagnation technology.

3rd Generation

Simple twin tank meter controlled. No low salt warning, no anti-stagnation tech.

Pro	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measures daily water consumption.• Low height.• Uses a complicated mechanical mechanism & water running down the drain to power the recharge process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recharges 2 or 3 times a day when you are using the water, due to a very low capacity, usually when you're in the shower.• Water in twin tanks will stagnate without any consumption on holidays.• Owner is obliged into using more expensive branded block salt.

4th Generation

Intelligent self setting meter controlled. Artificial intelligence learns about your water usage and adjusts itself daily to match your actual consumption. Recharge is completely automatic and with look ahead technology, never too late, never too soon.

Pro	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measures daily water consumption combined with a self setting and daily optimization function.• Anti-stagnation & nil hard water let-through look ahead technology.• Remote system monitor with low salt warning.• Auto brine tank LED.• Lower water consumption.• Reduced salt consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recharges 2 or 3 times a week and always @ 2:00am when only hard water is available for 59 minutes. Can be adjusted to recharge at another time if you regularly take baths 2 or 3 times a week @ 2:00am.• The electronic controller uses a 12v plug-in transformer that costs about 15p/month.

