

DOWNLOADABLE MAINTENANCE LOG

The grease trap maintenance log: a schedule that survives staff turnover

A grease trap gives no visible sign that it is overdue until the drain backs up. Set the routine up once with the checks below, then keep the log on page 2 where the shift can see it.

Set up the routine

- 01 ☐ **Attach trap treatment to a task the shift already does.**
Make it the last step of the standard clean-down, not a separate job to schedule.
- 02 ☐ **Log every entry with a name and a date.**
Keep the sheet on the wall, near the trap or the wash-up, not in a drawer.
- 03 ☐ **Name one owner per shift, not the team in general.**
- 04 ☐ **Book the professional pump-out and inspection, and log it here too.**
Daily treatment reduces the grease load between services; it does not replace them.
- 05 ☐ **Know your municipality's by-law.** Interval and record requirements vary by municipality.
For example, City of Johannesburg Water Services By-laws, s 94: the trap must be regularly cleaned, with a register of cleaning dates, the company that cleaned it, and certification of cleaning and disposal of its contents.

Warning signs: log them, act on them

- 01 ☐ **A slow-draining sink** at the wash-up or prep area.
- 02 ☐ **A persistent odour** around the wash-up or prep area.
- 03 ☐ **Visible grease build-up at the gully.**
These typically appear well before a full blockage.

The grease trap log, entry by entry

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General guidance, not legal advice: check the requirements of your local authority. References: City of Johannesburg Water Services By-laws, s 94; Regulations Governing General Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises, the Transport of Food and Related Matters (R638 of 2018), regulation 10(7): waste water disposed of to the satisfaction of the relevant local authority. Dates DD/MM/YYYY. Sponsored content: produced by Hospitality Marketplace in association with GreaseOff. Full article at hospitalitymarketplace.co.za.