

British Berkefeld (Doulton) History

British Berkefeld and Doulton are two brands owned by and manufactured by the same company, Fairey Industries, in England. These brands are steeped in history for manufacturing innovative water purifying systems. For historical purposes, some products are marketed as British Berkefeld and others as Doulton. Southern Cross Pottery imports two filters from Fairey Industries: The Doulton Super Sterasyl Filter and The Doulton Ultra Fluoride Filter.



The Berkefeld Water Filter Journey to Doulton

The Berkefeld Water Filter is named after Wilhem Berkefeld, a German engineer and contemporary of Henry Doulton. Both developed gravity-fed water filters using Kieselguhr (diatomaceous earth) from the Berkefeld Mine in Germany. These filters played a crucial role in preventing water-borne diseases, like how Doulton's filters helped purify the polluted Thames and combat Hamburg's cholera outbreak.

The Doulton Brand

Doulton® water filters have been continuously manufactured in the UK for over 185 years. Henry Doulton's innovation in using porous ceramic for water filtration helped prevent illnesses from cholera and other water-borne diseases. Today, Doulton's effective range of water filters is used in 140 countries.

In 1985, Doulton acquired Portacel's domestic water filter business and the trademarks Berkefeld (later changed to British Berkefeld) and Sterasyl. The Berkefeld line included single candle pressure filters, multi-candle pressure filters, and gravity water filters. Fairey Industrial Ceramics Limited (FICL) now manufactures Doulton® and British Berkefeld® ceramic water filters in North Staffordshire, UK.

The ceramic water filter candles produced by Doulton and British Berkefeld have an identical, highly controlled pore structure, making them effective at removing a wide range of water-borne contaminants. FICL's production process adheres to BS EN ISO 9001 quality standards and holds NSF and WRAS certifications, ensuring the highest international testing standards.