



Tm

Testing Materials

The starting point for good water quality is good testing habits. Water should be checked one to two times per week for available sanitizer level and proper pH readings. A water sample should be brought to your professional dealer for full analysis once per month or twice per fill cycle with spas. The first sample should be taken 24 hours after opening the pool or filling the spa, and the last sample taken 48 hours before closing the pool for the season. Of course anytime you suspect a problem, a water sample should also be checked.

B

Balance the Water

The critical first step in maintaining a clear, safe, enjoyable body of water is overall balance.

Alkalinity is balanced three or more times per season and gives pool and spa water the ability to resist pH changes due to rain, use, and other external factors.

Calcium Hardness is also balanced three or more times per season and prevents water from becoming aggressive and breaking down metal and plastic components thus protecting all surfaces, structures, and equipment.

Chlorine Stabilizer is balanced once per season in most pools and is not required in spas or in biguanide treated pools. Stabilizer slows chlorine loss due to sunlight. An unstabilized pool will use three to four times more chlorine than a properly balanced pool.

Foundation (borate) is balanced once per season and enhances water quality in all applications and with all programs. The water takes on a softer feel, chlorine consumption is reduced, water balance is more controllable, and algae growth is diminished.

A

Adjust the PH Level

Maintaining the proper pH range will make the water environment more user friendly. pH of human tissue is 7.5 and the recommended range for pools and spas is 7.2 to 7.8. Test twice per week and adjust as needed.

- **pH Increaser** is the most commonly used adjustment.
- **pH Decreaser** is typically used at the time of spring balancing or with pools equipped with chlorine generation devices (Salt Systems).

S

Sanitize

Water requires a continuous supply of **Sanitizer** to kill bacteria and algae before it has a chance to get established in the pool or spa. In traditional chlorine applications, sanitizer should be introduced through the use of an automatic chlorinator for consistent, effective disbursement throughout the body of water.

O

Oxidize

Oxidizing has several common names including “shocking” and “super chlorinating”. Oxidizing removes the materials that were killed by the sanitizer. Without oxidizing, contaminants build up and lead to water that is difficult to control and is of poor quality. Oxidizing is chemically cleaning the water once per week.

C

Control Algae and Minerals

Weekly use of products to control minerals and prevent algae will reduce the work load on **Sanitizers** and **Oxidizers**. Proper weekly additions keep pool and spa water sparkling clear, easy to maintain, and safe and enjoyable to use. Pools using algaecides weekly will exhibit better water quality and less product consumption than those not preventing algae formation.

PM

Problem Solvers and Maintenance

These groups of products are specially designed for use in the pools and spas. Each year many thousands of warranty claims are denied because of the use of non-pool products to clean surfaces and equipment. Preserve your investment by only using products designed for swimming pools and spas.

Clarifiers are products designed to help increase filter efficiency and add sparkle to the water by coagulating small particles into larger ones so they can be filtered out.

Cleaners are specially formulated products to clean and maintain pool surfaces, filters and equipment. These products are non-foaming, and will not adversely impact water quality and balance.

Problem Solvers are a specialized group of products to treat rare circumstances that may arise in pool and spa water from time to time. Products included kill certain types of stubborn algae, remove excess chlorine, eliminate phosphates that algae feed on, and a host of other important tasks.