

Start Up Instructions for New Pool Render Surfaces & Resurfacing

New concrete swimming pool surfaces can take up to 4 weeks to cure completely, in this time we recommend only the use of chlorine to sanitise the water and hydrochloric acid to maintain correct pH levels. Following a basic start up guide will ensure you are not congesting the pool water with unnecessary chemicals. After this time (4 weeks) and if all water chemistry levels are correct and under control, you may then start to add additional chemicals as required. Please note if liaising with your local pool shop regarding chemicals, it is vital to advise that the pool has just been resurfaced, this will ensure the correct advice is given regarding chemical addition.

Filling instructions;

Rendered pool interiors should start to be refilled on the same day, as soon as the pebble interior is completed the hose is placed into the pool and the refill process begins, the customer must stop the water once it has reached the desired level. If the pool needs to continue filling overnight, do not turn off the water and continue the next morning, instead turn the water pressure down and allow to refill slowly overnight and turn the pressure up again the next morning if more filling is needed.

As soon as the pool water has reached the skimmer box you then

- Add Pool Stain Remover's "Scale & Stain Eliminator" or equivalent at the prescribed rate to the pool water as a preventative measure for scale and staining issues for Sunstate Sand Pool Render and any other cementitious render finishes.
- Start filtration continuously for 12 hours
- As soon as possible you can adjust the water balance levels to the required amount using only chlorine and hydrochloric acid
- Vacuum any sediment from the floor
- After adding the necessary chemicals, continuous filtration should be carried out for 24 hours or until the water becomes crystal clear
- Once the water is clear you can continue the advised filtration schedule.

Salt water pools

As soon as the pool is filled and the water reaches the skimmer box run filtration for 12 to 24 hours or until pool water is clear, achieve all recommended water balance levels as soon as possible **but do not add salt.**

- **Only add salt 4 to 6 weeks after filling.**
- Delay addition of salt until all other water balance levels have been achieved.
- If no auto pool cleaner is used, the pool should be brushed and vacuumed two times weekly for the first two weeks and weekly thereafter by hand with a standard pool brush.
- Balance pH to between 7.2 – 7.6 two times weekly for the first three weeks and weekly thereafter.
- Once clear you can continue the advised filtration schedule.

Water chemical balancing for pebble pool interiors.

- pH 7.2 - 7.6
- Total Alkalinity 80 – 120 ppm
- Calcium Hardness 200 – 250 ppm

Total Hardness mg/L 1.3 – 3.0 pH levels (Power of Hydrogen)

pH should be maintained within the range of no less than 7.2 > 7.6 This is important because the lower the pH value means there are higher acidic levels in the water.

If the hardness is below 1.3 then your pool water will seek calcium from the pool concrete & surface as well as making the water become acidic, over time this may deteriorate the pool surface and visible calcium leaching may arise on the pool surface. If the Total hardness is above 3.0, then you may end up with cloudy/murky looking water and calcium scale deposits on your pool surface.

It is also best to avoid exceeding this limit as it may result in stains going unnoticed & untreated. Total alkalinity (TA levels) should be adjusted closer to 110 ppm and maintained within range 80 – 120 ppm. Calcium Hardness should ideally be kept between 200 – 250 ppm, this can be maintained by adding a small amount of calcium chloride regularly if the level drops below 200 ppm. However, it is crucial to ensure it is fully dissolved and spread consistently around the pool if added. If the calcium hardness level exceeds 250 ppm, it can be reduced by pumping out some water and adding fresh tap water.

Calcium is the most complex and difficult of all the pool stain issues to treat because calcium can form in a pool for a variety of reasons. White calcium (or scale) can form because pool owners often have difficulty keeping their pH in balance – particularly when their pool is new. High pH is a major reason for calcium formation and growth. Once a thin layer of calcium has formed, it continues to grow because it attracts more calcium to it over time. Eventually the calcium will become bigger and sometimes harder than the concrete pool surface. If you have calcium spots or scale, we strongly recommend you do something about it as soon as possible by visiting your local pool shop. Calcium that is left untreated can lift, crack and break up your cement pool surface over time causing serious and costly damage to **your** pool.

Disclaimer: The chemical balancing instructions are the recommended levels by the manufacturer of the Pool Render product. Always consult with a pool maintenance professional regarding long term water balance requirements based on local conditions. Never empty your swimming pool without first contacting your local pool builder or local pool shop for advice. We recommend having your pool water tested weekly to ensure appropriate chemical levels are maintained. Failing to adhere to the above instructions may void your warranty.