

Plaster Pool Start Up



A critical time period for plaster pool finishes is during the hydration stage. Hydration takes place within the first 28 days, making the plaster finish susceptible to metal staining, scaling and discoloration. To help in the proper start-up procedure, brushing, constant monitoring and adjustment of water chemistry is important. Due to uncontrollable issues such as fill water condition and environmental factors, recommended procedures for start-up may need to be adjusted to compensate for these factors to protect the finish.

POOL FILLING DAY

Step 1: Make sure the filtration equipment is operational.

Step 2: Remove all floor return heads and directional eyeballs (if appropriate and recommended in your geographical area).

Step 3: Based on temperature and type of finish, fill the pool to the middle of the skimmer or specified water level without interruption as rapidly as possible with clean potable water to help prevent a bowl ring. Place a clean rag on the end of the hose, always placed in the deepest area, to prevent damage to the surface material. If a water truck is required, 24 inches (60 cm) of water should be placed at the deepest area for a water cushion.

Note: Wheeled devices (cleaners, wheeled vacuums, etc) should not be used in the pool until after 28 days.

Step 4: At no time should any person or pets be allowed in the pool during the fill. Do not allow any external sources of water to enter the pool to help prevent streaking. It is recommended that you do not swim in the pool until the water is properly balanced.

Step 5: Test fill water for pH, Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and metals. Record test results.

Step 6: Start the filtration system immediately when the pool is full to the middle of the skimmer or specified water level.

DAY #1 (It is important to follow these steps in order - prior to proceeding to the next step)

Step 1: Test pH, Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and metals. Record test results.

Step 2: High Alkalinity should be adjusted to 80 ppm using pre-diluted Muriatic Acid (31-33% Hydrochloric acid). Always pre-dilute the acid by adding it to a 5 gallon bucket of pool water.

Step 3: Low Alkalinity should be adjusted to 80 ppm using Sodium Bicarbonate (baking soda).

Step 4: pH should be reduced to 7.2 to 7.6 by adding pre-diluted Muriatic Acid (first ensuring that the Alkalinity is already between 80-100 ppm).

Step 5: Brush the entire pool surface thoroughly at least twice daily to remove all plaster dust.

Step 6: Pre-dilute and add **SCALEfree™** at the recommended initial start-up dosage of 67.6oz per 10,000 gallons of water. Continue to add this protective product monthly at a rate of 5oz per 10,000 gallons each month.

Step 7: Operate filtration system continuously for a minimum of 72 hours.

Step 8: DO NOT add chlorine for 48 hours. DO NOT turn on pool heater until there is no plaster dust in the pool.

DAY #2

Step 1: Brush the Pool

Step 2: Test pH, Alkalinity and Calcium Hardness and repeat steps of Day #1 except for Step 6.

Step 3: Once the Alkalinity is adjusted to 80ppm and the pH is adjusted to 7.2 to 7.6, then adjust Calcium Hardness levels to a minimum of 150 ppm. (Caution: Adjustments requiring more than 20 lbs of CaCl should be pre-diluted and added in 10 lbs increments - morning and afternoon).

DAY #3

Step 1: Test pH, Alkalinity and Calcium Hardness and repeat Day #1 steps 1 through 5.

Step 2: Pre-diluted chlorine may now be added to achieve 1.5 to 3 ppm.

Note: NO SALT SHOULD BE ADDED FOR 28 DAYS.

Step 3: Brush the entire pool surface thoroughly at least twice daily to remove all plaster dust.

DAY #4 - DAY #28

Step 1: Test pH, Alkalinity and Calcium Hardness and repeat Day #1 steps 1 through 5 every day for 14 days to help prevent scaling of the pool surface.

Step 2: On the 7th day, if there is any plaster dust remaining, remove it using a brush pool vacuum.

Step 3: After the 4th day - calcium levels should be adjusted slowly over the 28 day period not to exceed 200 ppm.

Step 4: After the 4th day - adjust Cyanuric Acid levels to 30 - 50 ppm based on the primary sanitizer of the pool (pre-dissolve and add through the skimmer). For faster and easier results, use Natural Chemistry's **Instant Pool Water Conditioner**® which is already pre-dissolved. Add **Instant Pool Water Conditioner**® down the skimmer at a rate of 1 bottle per 10,000 gallons to raise CYA levels 32ppm.

www.npconline.org

SCALE free™

- Monthly maintenance that prevents calcification on salt generator cells
- Protects the cell from potentially life-shortening damage caused by scale and calcium phosphate scale
- Does NOT add phosphates to the water like most stain & scale products
- Helps control plaster dust
- Prevents metal staining from iron and copper



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