

CRYSTAL CLEAR POOLS

Pools, Spas, and Accessories!

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HOW TO BALANCE YOUR POOL

Your swimming pool water is comprised of different components, which collectively form your water's chemistry. The balance required among these components is critical to achieve a clean and clear pool with water that sparkles. Each chemical component has a known range of acceptable parameters or an ideal zone. Providing this ideal operating environment is necessary for the sanitizing system of choice to function properly. Once all of the chemicals are balanced and working together, the result should be a balanced pool that looks and feels great.

Is this difficult to do? It is moderately challenging. Mostly, frequently checking the water's balance and making smaller chemical adjustments will make this effort much easier and much more inexpensive.

What changes the water's chemical balance? RAIN. HOT TEMPERATURES. PEOPLE. The more rain you experience, the hotter the temperature, the more people using your pool the more you should expect the water's chemical balance to change. Check the water's chemical balance often.

Things you will need:

- Water testing kit
- Alkalinity Increaser
- pH Plus
- pH Minus
- Calcium hardness increase product

1. Make sure you begin with a freshly swept and vacuumed pool filled to the proper level.
2. Run the pump and filter throughout both the testing and chemical additions.
3. Use Test Strips or a Reagent Test Kit that tests for Alkalinity, pH, Calcium Hardness & Stabilizer/Cyanuric Acid. Test water samples twice to make sure that accurate reading were taken. Base your additions of balancing chemical on the number of gallons of water in your pool.
4. Begin by reading the proper dosage of Alkalinity Increaser to add, which should be on the bucket of Alkalinity Increaser itself. The ideal range for your pool's alkalinity is 80 to 120 parts per million. Add the required dosage into equal thirds for addition, allowing ten minutes between additions. Broadcast the powder across the surface of the pool to distribute it.

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5. Re-test the water after each addition to make sure that the prescribed dosage is not too much, which would cause you to overshoot the ideal range marker.
6. Repeat the testing for pH after the addition of the Alkalinity Increaser, because alkalinity raises the level of your pH. Add either pH Plus or pH Minus as needed, but add the required pH Minus to a bucket of pool water and dump the contents into your skimmer. Since the pH Minus is so acidic, the less handling, the better.
7. Reading the label and using your test result, measure out the recommended amount of Calcium Hardness Increaser. Separate the dosage into thirds and add. Allow ten-minute intervals between additions accompanied by retesting the water for calcium content. The ideal range for calcium hardness is between 180 and 240 parts per million. Use the bucket method since this chemical is very harsh to handle.
8. Add your sanitizer of choice (such as chlorine) only when all three of the balancing chemicals are within their ideal range, which will permit the chlorine to function in an optimal environment.

Tips & Warnings

- Remember that when fresh water is added to the pool by rainfall or by hose to compensate for evaporation, splash out, or backwashing and rinsing your filter, you'll need to test the water and re-balance it.
- Wear protective goggles and gloves before handling any chemicals.
- Test your pool water at least twice a week because it is important to keep the pool balanced. If the alkalinity is too low, the pH will not stay in place and that will prevent chlorine from killing bacteria and algae.
- Use a weekly dosage of an algaecide and follow instructions about the initial dose and weekly booster dosages.
- Vacuum and brush the pool weekly as part of a regular maintenance routine.
- Empty any accumulated debris from the skimmer basket and the pump basket as soon as possible to prevent leaves, for example, from breaking down and becoming an organic food source for algae.

NEVER ALLOW A WEEK TO GO BY WITHOUT TESTING YOUR POOL WATER AND MAKING THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS!