

Five (5) Essential Pool Maintenance Suggestions for Home Owners

1- Maintain Proper Pool / Spa Water levels

Lack of proper water level can cause damage to the pool pump, motor, and other pool plumbing equipment. This equipment must not operate dry or without water in the system.

The largest loss of water to a pool is caused from EVAPORATION.

Note: Pool /Spa Water levels must be maintained either by an auto - fill device or by filling manually with a hose.

2- Basket Strainers, Surface Skimmers and Pump Pots should be cleaned weekly.

Debris such as leaves, plastic materials, hair or any other type material must be cleaned from these devices on a routine basis. This is especially true when bushes, trees and other plants are near the pool area. Generally once a week is sufficient unless there have been high wind conditions such as those brought on by the summer monsoons.

Note: The monsoons with their high wind conditions will cause excessive amounts of debris to go into the pool which can clog baskets, skimmers and pump pots.

If blocked, clogged, or restricted this will cause water flow restriction to the pump and other plumbing equipment which can cause equipment to fail thus requiring the pool owner to replace the pool pump and/or its components because of excessive damage caused by the restrictive water flow. Also, water flow restriction can affect the water chemistry due to lack of re-circulation through the filtration system.

Note: The pool pump and filtration equipment is the "HEART" of the pool.

3- Check Pressure Gauge at Pool Filter—normal range is 5-30 PSI for Vacuum cleaning systems.

Excessive pressure is a sure sign that the filter needs to be cleaned (back washed), or replaced.

Note: a dirty filter uses more energy and does a poor job in keeping the pool clean.

4- Maintaining proper Chemical balance including proper Salt or Chlorine levels as per Manufacturer standards.

Check at least as often as the manufacturer directs.

BE AWARE that during the summer season you must be especially diligent in keeping sanitation at appropriate levels because the more rapid evaporation of water in the summer season causes the need to fill the pool more often with fresh, untreated water.

A few of the water conditions that can be caused by improper levels of chemicals include:

- Cloudy water and/or pool surfaces with algae buildup.
- Mineral buildup on tile surfaces.
- Discolored and grungy grout.
- Plaster surfaces becoming so rough and damaged that swimmers feet can be hurt.
- Excessive staining on pool surfaces that will require re-coating or replacement.

5- Maintain /Replace pool cleaning equipment as needed.

Know that ALL pool equipment will eventually require repair/replacement.

Be prepared to replace worn or damaged parts as needed. Also, be aware that the sun is especially harsh on all plastics so protect plastic with Ultra Violet (UV) paint.