



Pool & Spa Safety Tips

Do

- Store chemicals in a well ventilated, locked area
- Wear gloves when handling pool chemicals
- Put spilled products into pool water
- Always read the label and follow directions.

Don't

- Mix any pool or spa chemicals together
- Add water to any chemicals (always add chemicals to water)
- Allow dry chemicals to become damp or wet
- Place spilled products in dumpster/trash

Testing Your Pool Water

This is the most important routine function you will perform!
 Test every other day and after heavy rain or heavy usage.

Helpful Hints

Test with an accurate test kit or strips; don't take shortcuts.
 Start with a clean kit and fresh reagents or strips (replace annually).
 The best time to test is early evening. Circulate water before testing.
 Do not take sample next to return inlets.
 Always follow instructions for each test kit carefully.
 High chlorine can cause false results. Allow chlorine to drop to recommended levels before testing.

TEST KITS:

Hold clean test vials upside down and push down in water.
 Take sample 18 inches below surface - up to your elbow.
 Measure sample carefully - lowest point of water.
 Sample must meet the fill-line on test vials.
 Invert reagent bottle (straight upside down) and add reagent drops to test water.
 Don't cover test vial with fingers (use caps provided).
 Read results against a white background.
 Do not pour test residue into your water after testing.

TEST STRIPS:

Always dip the strips for the proper amount of time for accurate results.
 Always read the results in the proper time.
 Strips are very sensitive to exposure to water. Keep tube closed when not in use. If water gets into the tube, replace the strips.
 Strips are degraded by too much heat and sunlight. Store in a cool dry area, out of direct sunlight when not in use.

Testing

Test	Frequency	Pool Type	Ideal Range
pH	Every other day	All Pool Types	7.2-7.6
Total Alkalinity	Every three months	Plaster/Gunite/Concrete	80-125 ppm
		Vinyl/Fiberglass/Painted	125-150 ppm
Chlorine	Twice weekly	All Pool Types	1-3 ppm
Total Chlorine	Weekly	All Pool Types	Matches free chlorine levels.