



The Pool & Spa Store
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Steps for Success

In addition to adding products to the water, there are a few extra steps that you will need to maintain a beautiful looking pool. After you have these down you will become the neighborhood pool pro!

Circulate and Filter the Water

These two steps go hand in hand because without circulation water cannot be filtered. The water needs to circulate 12 hours or more in order for the pool to be clear and free from contaminants. When water is moving it is harder for bacteria, algae, and other contaminants to cause issues in your pool. Circulation allows your filter to trap visible and invisible materials that have entered the pools water. Periodically your filter will need to be cleaned according to the manufacturer's instructions. One of their recommendations is to use a chemical cleaner such as ProTeam Filter Magic.

Clean your Pool

No matter how often you circulate and filter the water, some material cannot be removed without your interference. Periodically, the pool will need to be vacuumed to remove visible debris in the water. Even if the water looks fantastic, or if you use an automatic pool cleaner, the pool walls need to be brushed at least once a week so microscopic organisms can be filtered out and consumed by water treatment products.

Ideal Ranges

pH 7.4 - 7.6

Total Alkalinity Gunite Pools 100 -150 ppm

Vinyl or Other 125 - 150 ppm

Calcium Hardness Gunite Pools 250 - 350 ppm

Vinyl or Other 150 - 250 ppm

Metals 0 ppm

ProTeam UV Shield (Cyanuric Acid) 30-50 ppm

Chlorine 1-3 ppm

Bromine 3-5 ppm

The Importance of Proper Water Balance

Water balance is important for many reasons. Balanced water will allow your sanitizers to work more efficiently to eliminate bacteria and germs. Balanced water will protect equipment and will contribute to brilliant looking water. When water is in balance, it is more comfortable for swimmers, unpleasant odors are virtually eliminated, and burning eyes and itchy skin are less likely to occur. If you are starting up

your pool for the first time of the year, allow the water to circulate for 24 hours. During this time avoid adding any products to the pool. After a full day has passed, obtain a sample of your pool water using a ProTeam Water Sample Bottle or any clean resealable container. Your water sample should be taken at elbow's length down and away from anywhere water may re-enter the swimming pool. After the container has been sealed bring the water to your authorized ProTeam dealer for a water analysis. Most ProTeam dealers perform water analysis using the ProTeam Speed Lab, a computerized optical testing system. Speed Lab tests water to get information needed to properly treat and balance swimming pool water. With that information, our dealers will help you select the right products in the right quantities for your pool's specific needs. We strongly recommend using their services at the beginning, end and at least a couple of times during the swimming season.

pH

pH is the most important factor in water balance. pH is a number between 0 and 14 that measures the acidity (low pH) or basicity (high pH) of water. A neutral pH is 7.0, but swimming pools should have pH between 7.4 – 7.6. When pH is low in a body of water it becomes acidic. Low pH levels will start to corrode equipment and deteriorate surfaces, such as plaster and vinyl. If pH becomes high, water is likely to form scale around pool surfaces and equipment. These scale deposits can be unsightly in the pool and its formation in pool equipment (especially the heater) can be damaging. Additionally, high pH can cause hazy water and eye and skin irritation. If pH is below 7.4 apply ProTeam pH Up, if pH is above 7.6 apply ProTeam pH Down according to label instructions. pH should be tested daily when there is heavy swimmer use or twice a week with moderate or light use.

Total Alkalinity (TA)

Total alkalinity's function in water is to be a pH buffer. In other words, alkalinity will help keep pH at ideal levels. Typically, when total alkalinity in water is low pH will bounce in and out of range. When total alkalinity is high, pH should be high or difficult to adjust. Proper TA should be maintained in the range of 100 – 150 ppm for plaster or gunite pools and 125 – 150 in vinyl, fiberglass and non-masonry finishes. If total alkalinity is low add ProTeam Total Alkalinity Increaser according to label instructions. If TA is high (not typical) consult your local ProTeam authorized dealer for assistance. Total Alkalinity should be tested at least once a week.

Calcium Hardness (CH)

Calcium hardness refers to the amount of dissolved minerals in water. Proper calcium hardness levels for plaster or gunite pools range between 250 – 350 ppm. Vinyl and fiberglass surfaces should have a calcium hardness level between 150 – 250 ppm. Low CH can lead to corrosion of equipment, etching of surface finishes or premature aging of liners. CH that is too high may cause cloudy water and scaling. Test calcium hardness levels at the beginning and end of your pool season. Continue monitoring these levels monthly during the season. If calcium hardness is low in your swimming pool add ProTeam Calcium Up, according to label instructions.

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

To keep water sanitary and to help keep water in balance, products are periodically added to water. During a normal pool season these products leave a small invisible trace of themselves behind. All these

unseen particles are called total dissolved solids or TDS. TDS may cause some issues in a traditionally sanitized pool when levels exceed 2,000 ppm. These issues can range from, increased sanitizer consumption to hazy pool water. Traditionally, the most effective method is to drain a small amount of water out of the pool and replace with fresh water. However, in highly elevated levels of TDS, ProTeam Superfloc Clarifier can be used according to label instructions. Since TDS does not increase rapidly, it may only need to be tested twice a season.

The Critical Difference

This is where ProTeam differs from other pool treatment systems. Our unique formula, ProTeam Supreme, will make caring for your pool refreshingly simple. When introduced to the pool ProTeam Supreme will help maintain water balance, so you will spend less time testing and adding products into the pool.

ProTeam Supreme will reduce the time you will spend performing maintenance on your filter. ProTeam Supreme will also suppress algae growth and reduce sanitizer consumption, adding up to be big savings. Caring for the pool will be easier, and the look and feel of the water will be second to none. When ProTeam Supreme is in the water eye and skin irritation are eliminated while giving water a soft and silky feel. Supreme is a product that solves problems before they start with an easy initial treatment. In many pools it may be added only once at the beginning of the season with no additional treatments needed. The only way that Supreme is removed from your pool is through filter backwash, splash out or a leak in the pool. Once you have added ProTeam Supreme to your pool you are on your way to a pool that will be easier to maintain. This process will be easier than using other chemical treatment systems. Now you will be saving your hard earned money and be able to relax and enjoy your pool more!

Sanitizing Your Pool

Properly sanitized water looks good, feels great and has no odors. However, if not properly sanitized bacteria, algae and organic wastes can collect in pool water. If this happens pool water can turn cloudy, uncomfortable and an unpleasant odor can even occur. This is when your water is unsanitary. Chlorinating and brominating compounds have been effectively and safely used for decades to ensure sanitary, clear and comfortable water. ProTeam has innovated and offered several options for sanitizing swimming pool water. If needed your local ProTeam dealer can help you decide which sanitizer method is best for you and your pool. Traditionally these products are added to either a floater, a chemical feeder or directly through the skimmer, but there are several ways to add these products to your pool. In any application consult the manufactures' instructions for proper use of any of these dispensing devices. Be sure to follow the label directions for applying any ProTeam brand sanitizer.

Options For Sanitizing Your Pool

ProTeam High Tech Tabs - Our unique 1-inch and 3-inch tabs are a special blend of chlorine and ProTeam Supreme. This blend makes our tabs different from other traditional chlorine sanitizers for many reasons:

- Higher chlorine efficiency

- Reduces pool operating costs
- Reduces scale formation
- Enhances waters clarity

ProTeam Pure Tabs and Pure Stix - Our Pure Tabs and Pure Stix are highly effective at providing regular chlorination to your pool water. Pure Tabs are available in both 1" and 3" compressed tablets. All these chlorinating products are made without glues or binders leaving behind no sticky or slimy residue.

ProTeam Zip Chlor - For those who prefer to hand feed their sanitizer to their pool we created Zip Chlor. It is added periodically directly to the pool by broadcasting it over the surface of the water.

ProTeam Brominating Tabs - Bromine is an easy and effective way to sanitize a pool or spa as an alternative to chlorine. Since bromine cannot be stabilized against the effects of the sun, it is recommended that it be used in pools that are indoors or frequently covered.

Don't lose it!

The biggest lose of chlorine in a swimming pool is to the sun. When chlorine is added to water, the sun's ultraviolet rays can rapidly deplete the levels of chlorine in the pool. Adding stabilizer (Cyanuric Acid or CYA) to your pool will increase the life expectancy of chlorine in the water. Most importantly this simple step will save you money. Proper CYA levels should be between 30 – 50 ppm and should be tested monthly. Since cold water can cause false CYA test results, wait until the pool water is around 55 to 60°F before testing these levels. If these levels are low add ProTeam UV Shield to the water according to label instructions.

Stop Algae Before It Starts

Algae is a common problem for pool owners. These microscopic plants come into your pool from rain, wind, and animals. What starts as a virtually invisible invader can turn your pool into a slimy green mess overnight. This mess does not necessarily have to be green, algae comes in many colors such as black, pink, brown or yellow. What most pool owners do not know is that their pool water is almost always infested with algae. Usually when pool owners see algae in the water they think they have a problem. Luckily, ProTeam has several ways to control algae and potential outbreaks. Though ProTeam Supreme is highly effective in preventing algae growth, we recommend the regular use of an algaecide to help eradicate algae. Consult with your local ProTeam dealer to find the right product for you. As always, follow the label directions for starting and maintenance treatments.

ProTeam Prevent - This excellent algaecide provides an effective defense against algae growth. Prevent is a broad-spectrum algaecide and its nonstaining formulation will not affect the balance of your pool water.

ProTeam Polyquat 60 - Our highly concentrated algaecide provides a superior defense against algae growth. This non-foaming and non-staining formulation when used regularly can help reduce sanitizer consumption.

Alternate Treatments

ProTeam Microfloc Clarifier is a unique product that will bind microscopic particles in pool water together. The purpose of this action is to help the filter remove these particles with ease. Some particles are so small that they pass through the filter. However, once the filter has trapped these particles they can be removed from the pool's system by backwashing or cleaning the media. Microfloc Clarifier does not know the difference between dirt and other physical material in the pool. Its powerful pH neutral formula can help remove these microscopic particles from the pool. Microfloc Clarifier can actually help solve problems in swimming pools before they ever become a problem.

Making Water Crystal Clear

While the pool is open the water collects a various number of contaminants. Some can include pollen, dirt, body oils, cosmetics, suntan lotion and other swimmer or organic wastes. Build-up of these contaminants can make your water cloudy and cause unpleasant odors. These contaminants can interfere with your ability to sanitize the water and prevent algae growth. ProTeam offers a variety of products to remove these contaminants from the water. These products will also help to revitalize the sanitizer that is already in the water. Typically these products are called oxidizers or "shock" treatments and should be added at least once a week. Shocking the pool is also recommended after a heavy rain or when the pool has been heavily used. Your local ProTeam dealer can help you decide which oxidizer is best for you and your pool. Regardless of which product you use carefully follow the product directions.

Options for Shocking Your Pool

Power Magic Super Oxidizer - Our patented Calcibor® shock treatment is recommended with use of our ProTeam Supreme and ProTeam High Tech Tabs. This blend makes our shock different from other treatments for these reasons:

- Safer and easier to use
- Will not calcify sand filters
- Prevents over stabilization
- Helps maintain Supreme levels in pool

Multi Magic Shock – Our powerful oxidizer combines the power of three products in one easy shock treatment. Multi Magic contains Oxone® to shock the pool and a powerful chlorine solution to help sanitize the water. It is also blended with a clarifier to help keep the water sparkling. After Multi Shock is added, swimmers can resume enjoying the pool after 15 minutes.

Problems? ProTeam has solutions!

What should I use if I have metal in the water?

ProTeam Metal Magic effectively removes metals from pool water by crystallizing the metal particles so it can be filtered out by the pool equipment. Metal Magic will also remove unsightly metal stains and scale deposits from pool surfaces and equipment. When used on a maintenance schedule Metal Magic will prevent these reoccurring issues in your pool.

What should I use if I can't get rid of a cloud in my pool?

ProTeam Superfloc Clarifier is a highly concentrated clearing agent that drops cloud causing particles down to the bottom of the swimming pool. This allows you to vacuum the particles that have accumulated on the bottom directly out of the pool.

What should I use if I have a film around the surface of my fiberglass pool?

ProTeam Tile & Vinyl Cleaner is a professional strength cleaner for removing scale, oily film and other undesirable things. It can be used on all surface types and leaves a microscopic protective layer after use.

How often should I clean my filter?

Every six to eight weeks you should clean your filter using ProTeam Filter Magic. Filter Magic does an excellent job in removing oily film, organic buildup and grime from all filter types and brands.

What should I use if I have a bad case of algae?

Once visible algae can be difficult to remove from any pool. If you are faced with this unsightly dilemma you should consult your local ProTeam dealer for the best products for your pool. Some options your ProTeam Dealer might recommend are Severest Algae Treatment, Mustard and Black Magic.

Mustard & Black Magic - A highly effective product in removing all types of algae during outbreaks. Though effective against all types, it is particularly powerful against mustard and black algae.

Severest Algae Treatment - A powerful formula that utilizes heavily chelated copper to destroy algae. If you experience pink slime or water mold, see your local ProTeam dealer for treatment options.