

POOL MAINTENANCE TIPS

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| POOL MAINTENANCE TIPS | 1 |
| Pool Maintenance..... | 2 |
| Buy a pool cover..... | 2 |
| Remove any form of debris..... | 2 |
| Circulation..... | 3 |
| Filtration | 3 |
| Set up your vacuum and Vacuum the Pool..... | 4 |
| Adjust the Chemicals | 4 |

Pool Maintenance

In the scorching summer heat, a dip in the swimming pool is a relief. But before you can jump into the water, you have to carry out all the pool maintenance routines that prolong its crystal-clear properties. A lot of people hate pool maintenance tasks, but if you neglect your pool, then you will not enjoy swimming in sparkling clean water. Here is some pool maintenance for dummies routines that will ensure you have crystal clear water that you can enjoy swimming in.

Buy a pool cover

Immediately you become a swimming pool owner, the next thing you will need to purchase is a pool cover.

This will help in covering the swimming pool when not in use for longer periods such as during winter months and when you are out of the house maybe on a holiday. A pool cover is effective in shielding the pool from falling objects and other weather elements. It can also act as a barrier that prevents small children and pets from falling into the pool. **Setting up the pool cover requires lots of work, but it's one of the basic pool maintenance.**

Remove any form of debris



Pool maintenance should be directly related to how often the pool is used so if you use your pool regularly, then you should invest in a good skimmer. A skimmer is a **rake that's used to fish out objects from the water. Skimming out floating debris** such as leaves and dead insects from the water and emptying it is a process that takes less

than two minutes. Make sure you dispose this waste away from the pool so that it's not blown back inside by wind. If you have bushes and trees that shed into the pool, consider trimming them or cutting them and replacing them with varieties that do not shed much.

Circulation

The pump is the focal point of the filtration system. It helps by moving water from the pool and sending it to the filter so that it can expel any dirt, debris or dust before sending it back to the pool. Wondering how often you should run your pump? The size of the pool, pipe and the number of swimmers all play a major role in establishing how long you should run your pump. For the right amount of time to run your pump talk to a pool professional. They will help you establish the proper amount of time required depending on the size of your pool so as keep it running.

The rule of thumb is to keep your pump running for about 1 hour for every 10 degrees of temperature. **If your pump isn't running, the water from the pool in is not getting** circulated properly. Running your pump and circulating the water is the most important way to prevent problems in your pool.

Filtration

Filtration is vital in swimming pool maintenance. The role of filtration is to get rid of all the undissolved dirt and debris from the pool.

There are various types of filters available for swimming pools. They include:

- **sand and gravel**
- anthracite
- **diatomaceous earth**

The cartridge types are the filter mediums that are commonly used. A swimming pool filtration system uses the basic element of passing water through small sieves, therefore filtering it. Particles that cannot pass through the sieve are trapped and thus get separated from the swimming pool. This process is repeated until all the sieves are blocked. When this happens, the filter should be cleaned so that the cycle is repeated.

Set up your vacuum and Vacuum the Pool



Sediment and some dirt may find their way to the floor of the pool and will need to be removed with a swimming pool vacuum cleaner. The swimming pool vacuum cleaner works in the same manner a household unit does except that instead of drawing air, it draws water.

This can be done in two different ways: one method uses a jet of water that's supplied by a garden hose to power the suction which will pull the dirt into the vacuums head to be trapped in a cloth bag. The second method makes use of suction power that's supplied by the filter which pulls the sediment and dirt from the floor of the pool so that it's removed via the filter. When there is a lot of sediment to be expelled through the filter, it should be adjusted so that the vacuumed water bypasses the filter and runs to waste.

Finish up the cleaning by brushing off any algae on the pool sides with a nylon brush on the vacuum pole. For a concrete pool, use a steel brush.

Adjust the Chemicals

Chemicals are important in regular pool maintenance so as to keep the water safe and clean. Always test and correct your pool chemistry every week. Start by adjusting the **pH with muriatic acid especially if it's over 7.6 or use soda ash if it's below 7.4.**

If the chlorine levels are below 1 part ppm or the alkalinity is below 90ppm, shock your swimming pool. Do this by dissolving the chlorine or alkalinity enhancer (baking soda works perfectly, just a pinch) in a bucket of water and pour in. Go for lithium based **chlorine as it dissolves easily, doesn't leave any residue and doesn't interfere with the pH levels of the water.**

Always follow the **manufacturer's** instructions when applying chemicals in your pool. **Lastly check the pools water level and refill it if it's below half way the skimmers mouth.**



When thinking of pool maintenance, engage all your common senses. Ask for help where you do not know and make your pool maintenance professional your friend. Your swimming pool can be a source of fun and joy, but it needs proper pool maintenance routines so that you feel comfortable swimming in it. By cleaning it regularly, you will be able to enjoy a refreshing swimming experience for the longest time.