

Winner "Manufacturing" category for Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards

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# Slip, slop, slap for your pool

Protect you pool from sun damage

We all know what the effects of sun damage are on the human body, but *did you know* that the sun can also wreak havoc on your pools water balance & chemistry. UV rays break down the chlorine and other chemicals in your pool that are keeping it healthy to swim in.

It may seem like and odd concept, sunscreen for your pool. But *the reason your pool needs this product* is quite similar to why we use it ourselves.

Because of Australia's mostly sunny weather all year round, our pools can be exposed to a great deal of sunlight over time. However, in the summer months, the amount & intensity of direct sunlight your pool is exposed to rises dramatically.

## This is a problem for your pool for two reasons:

- UV rays have the capability to destroy up to 30 per cent of chlorine every hour. This means you have to top up the chlorine levels much more regularly than usual, which is both a hassle & expensive to maintain.
- The drop in the concentration of chlorine in the pool then encourages the growth of algae or harmful bacteria, some of which need specialist treatment and can be very hard to get rid of

This is why you should consider using a sunscreen product for your pool. Would you ever sit in the sun for hours without any form of protection? Checking the sunscreen levels in your pool can save you HEAPS of money & time. Bring a Water Sample into store and we can test it for you.





### **Fixing Cloudy Water**

One of *the most commonly occurring pool problems is cloudy water*. A large number of pool owners battle this issue, which doesn't necessarily pose a health risk to swimmers but can look unsightly. Cloudy water can be caused by a chemical or mineral imbalance, or by a large amount of fine particles such as dirt suspended in the water. Luckily, *there are two main solutions* to help with you with this problem. *Floc and Water Clarifier*, a specially designed polymer agent that will help eliminate floating particles that are causing the issue. *This is how each solution works:* 

#### **Aluminium Sulphate (Floc)**

This solution works by trapping the floating particles. When administered to your pool water, the aluminium *forms a gel-like precipitate* that bridges or sticks together. The alum precipitate then forms small bundles (called flocs) that trap suspended particles. *This is called flocculation*, and it leads to a large amount of sediment forming on the bottom of the pool made up of both the dirt (suspended particles) and the gel-like alum precipitate. *The sediment can then be easily vacuumed out*.

#### **Polymers (Water Polish)**

Similar to the aluminium sulphate, *the polymers attach to the floating particles* making the water cloudy; their long molecular structure attracts smaller particles due to a charged nature. *They then clump together to form one particle, which drops to the bottom of the pool.* These larger particles can therefore be removed from the water by filtration or by vacuuming.

If the purpose is to *clarify slightly cloudy or hazy water*, it is better to use a water clarifier than floc, as it is faster and less of a hassle to use. If the water is really dirty -- if you can only see down into the water an inch or two -- then a one-time dose of floc may be better than multiple doses of a water clarifier.

Head into Donemans to check out these two treatments options.

#### **Did You Know**

On a sunny day up to 95% of the chlorine in the pool can be lost into the atmosphere in as little as three-and-a-half hours!

#### Wild weather, green pools

Queensland is often marked by high temperatures and in certain regions, humidity – not to mention heavy rains and thunderstorms. That can cause problems with swimming pools. But *there's no need to worry*! With a little extra TLC, *you can keep the water in pristine condition*.

To ensure your pool stays in pristine condition during the changes in weather, *here are some top tips:* 

#### After periods of heavy rain

- Pool water needs to be re-balanced. It's as easy as taking a sample of pool water from elbow depth (as this is more circulated water) and bringing it into Donemans Pool Centre for a FREE computerised water test. We can suggest the most appropriate solution to keep your pool clean & healthy for your family.
- Scoop out as much debris from the pool as possible.
- If the pool is particularly dirty, *increase the hours of filter* operation until the pool is clear. The time is dependent on the size of the pool.
- In times of heavy rainfall, there is more demand for *algaecides which kill algae*, as these can be diluted by the extra fresh rainwater.
- With about 80 per cent of pools now being salt water, there is more demand for salt, as this makes the pool saline and creates a natural chlorination. Extra Chlorine may also be needs if the water gets really dirty.
- Backwash the filter on your pool to optimise filter efficiency.
- *Check and empty the skimmer basket* and the hair and lint filter located in front of the pump to ensure they are clear of debris.
- *Chlorine is the best defence against algae* particularly during hot weather and if you have a salt pool, you can use the 'super chlorinate' button on your salt chlorinator to help fix the problem. The hotter the weather gets, the more the pool is used and, as a result, more chlorine is required to keep it sanitised. Pools aren't cooling down overnight, so the chlorine demand remains high.
- Another demand on pool water is the level of phosphates in the water. Algae love phosphates and feed on them. *Phosphates are introduced to the pool primarily via bird and bat droppings, roof water added into the pool, and swimming costumes which have been washed in detergent containing phosphates.* Chlorine alone can't eliminate phosphates. A chemical called *Starver* will eradicate the phosphates so the chlorine can work on killing the algae.
- If the pH level is too high it can affect the efficiency of the chlorine in the pool. This can be addressed by adding acid to the water. If the pH level is too low, the water will start to hurt eyes and skin and make swimmers feel itchy. Correct pH levels make the pool comfortable to swim in.

### **Product of the Month**

Originally developed for the harsh tropical climates of far north QLD, **Lo-Chlor Tropical Pool Algaecide** fast became the benchmark as the most effective and most potent product for killing ALL types of algae.

#### **Features & Benefits**

Use for the treatment of severe, resistant algae strains.

Effective over a wide pH range, best results at pH between 7.0 and 7.2.

At lower pH, the waxy coating surrounding algae cells is greatly softened, allowing easier penetration by chemical.

Compatible with all recognised sanitisers and other pool additives.



Shock'n'Clear

Clear performance for your pool. ONLY YOUR POOL GETS A SHOCK.....

\*Boosts chlorine levels \*Restores water sparkle \*Salt Compatible

Clear & Sparkling Clarifier Additive