

POOL WATER PROBLEM SOLVER

Possible Cause Solution Preventative Maintenance

CLOUDY, DULL WATER

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| Dirty filter | Clean filter with a filter cleaner according to label directions. | Use Back Wash as necessary and clean filter thoroughly as needed. |
| pH too high | Test pH and total alkalinity. Add pH Down as directed. Adjust as required. | Test frequently and maintain pH of 7.2-7.8 and total alkalinity at 80-120 ppm. |
| Free chlorine residual too low | Increase salt generator output percentage. Shock oxidize with S.O.S. | Maintain free chlorine level of 1-4 ppm. |
| Filter not removing small particles | Use Enzyme Clarifier to coagulate small particles. Check filter operation. | Use Enzyme Clarifier weekly, 1 fl. oz. per 5000 gallons. |
| Backwashing sand filters too often | Backwash less frequently, only as recommended by filter manufacturer's directions. | Use Back Wash once every month or two months, depending on number and frequency of pool occupancy. |
| Dissolved metals in water | Use Cell Extend to increase filter efficiency and to reduce scale and phosphates. | Use 8 fl. oz. per 20,000 gallons of Cell Extend weekly. |

CLOUDY, GREEN WATER

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| Green algae | Use S.O.S. per directions. Add Ultima® Total Control as directed, then brush daily until gone. | Use 6 fl. oz. of Algae Erase™ algaecide per 10,000 gallons weekly to prevent algae growth. Adjust returns to provide better flow over affected area. |
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YELLOW SLIME

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| Mustard algae | Clean filter with a filter cleaner according to label directions. Brush affected areas. Use Ultima® Yello-Free® algaecide. | Use 6 fl. oz. of Algae Erase™ algaecide per 10,000 gallons weekly to prevent algae growth. |
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REDDISH BROWN WATER

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| Iron or manganese dissolved in water | Use Cell Extend to suspend and inactivate stain-causing minerals. | Use 8 fl. oz. per 20,000 gallons of Cell Extend weekly. |
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CLEAR, GREEN WATER

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| Dissolved copper from fill water—Corrosion of copper pipes or heater | Use Cell Extend as directed. Test and adjust pH and total alkalinity. | Use 8 fl. oz. per 20,000 gallons of Cell Extend weekly. |
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STAINS & RUST

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| Metals in water | Use Cell Extend to remove stains. | Use 8 fl. oz. per 20,000 gallons of Cell Extend weekly. |
| Unbalanced water | Make necessary pH and total alkalinity adjustments. | Maintain pH of 7.2-7.8, total alkalinity at 80-120 ppm. |

CALCIUM, SCALE DEPOSITS

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| pH or alkalinity too high | Correct with pH Down as directed. | Use Cell Extend weekly to prevent scale from forming. |
| Calcium content too high | Dilute pool water with water of lower hardness. Use Cell Extend as directed. | Use Cell Extend weekly to prevent scale formation. |

SKIN & EYE IRRITATION

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| Combined chlorine level is too high | Shock oxidize with Ultima® T.K.O. or S.O.S. Then test for free chlorine residual and adjust to maintain residual of 1-4 ppm. | Maintain sanitizer level of 1-4 ppm at all times regardless of pool usage or weather conditions. |
| pH too low or too high | Adjust pH into range of 7.2 - 7.8 with either pH Up or pH Down . | Test and adjust pH into the 7.2 - 7.8 range. |

CHLORINE ODOR

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| Combined chlorine level is too high | Shock oxidize with Ultima® T.K.O. or S.O.S. Then test for free chlorine residual and adjust to maintain residual of 1-4 ppm. | Test chlorine level daily. Maintain pH of 7.2-7.8, total alkalinity of 80-120 ppm and free chlorine level of 1-4 ppm. |
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SCUM & ODORS

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| Grease and oil from swimmers | Use enzyme-action Enzyme Clarifier to dissolve oils and lotions. Clean walls and surfaces with Speed Clean Citrus . Clean filter with a filter cleaner (follow label directions). | Shower before entering pool. Maintain a clean filter with periodic cleaning. Shock oxidize with Salt Solutions by Ultima® Weekly Salt Shock Oxidizer after heavy pool use to destroy non-filterable contaminants. Use Enzyme Clarifier weekly. |
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Pool Care Guide for Salt Pools

SALT SOLUTIONS

by **ULTIMA®**

Welcome to Ultima® Pool Care

Caring for a swimming pool that is equipped with a salt chlorine generator is made simpler by virtue of automation—the device makes chlorine for you. But these devices do not test the water, clean your filter, adjust, balance or handle a weekend pool party, nor should they be considered maintenance-free. Salt chlorine generator cells accumulate contaminants such as scale, oil and grease which reduce cell efficiency and may shorten its life. It is important to note that cells will generally need replacing after 3-5 years of use. The lifetime of a cell is dependent upon several factors, such as bather load and frequency of use. By following the maintenance program outlined below, you can extend the serviceable life of your salt chlorine generator and enjoy many years of use.

This easy-to-use reference guide will walk you through how to care for your salt pool from opening day until you close for the winter.

To get started, you will need to know the size of your salt pool.

MY POOL IS _____ GALLONS

RECTANGULAR (length X width X average depth) X **7.5**

ROUND (length X width X average depth) X **5.9**

As you care for your pool, it is important for your pool water to be “in balance.” Keeping water balanced will prevent the water from becoming corrosive or forming scale deposits, both of which can damage pool equipment.

Things to Keep in Mind When Caring for Your Pool:

- **Always** read label directions prior to using chemicals and use only as directed.
- **Never** add chemicals to the water when people are in the pool.
- **Never** add chemicals through a skimmer system. Instead, add them by pouring in front of a return line or by carefully walking around the pool to distribute.
- **Never** mix one chemical with another chemical prior to adding to the water.
- **Always** store chemicals in a cool, dry location out of direct sunlight.
- **Ensure** efficient operation of the cell to help extend its serviceable life.
- **Regularly** check pH levels and adjust as necessary.

Your pool water should always have the following levels:

pH Reading: **7.2 - 7.8**

Sanitizer Level: **1-4 ppm**

Total Alkalinity: **80-120 ppm**

Salt Level: **3,000 - 4,500 ppm**

Season Start-Up

If your pool is new to salt (new generator), follow your manufacturer's recommendations prior to startup.

DAY 1

1. Have a professional pool retailer test the water you will be using to fill your pool. Testing the water you are adding will allow you to identify what minerals and chemical factors may require attention.
2. Check that your pool filter is clean. If it is not clean, use a filter cleaner according to label directions. Ask your local dealer for recommended products.
3. Add water to your pool to bring it to the correct water level.
4. Add the correct level of salt as per the directions stated on the product. **CAUTION:** Be certain to use a high quality salt made for use with chlorine generators, as minor impurities that may be present in some salt can cause staining or other adverse reactions. Consult your professional dealer.
5. Jumpstart your salt water sanitizing system by adding 4 lbs. Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Salt Startup per 20,000 gallons water if your cyanuric acid level is below 15 ppm.** This product clarifies cloudy water, controls metals to prevent stain and scale buildup, adds stabilizer to prevent chlorine loss and gives pool water a soft, silky feeling. Then add 16 fl. oz. of **Cell Extend** per 10,000 gallons water to prevent scale and oily buildup on the cell cell, which causes it to work extra hard and reduces its efficiency.
6. After your pool is full, add **Enzyme Clarifier** to help remove particles that may have accumulated during the offseason and add initial clarity to pool water.

DAY 2

1. Add 1 lb. of Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Weekly Salt Shock Oxidizer** per 10,000 gallons to destroy any contaminants that have accumulated in the water. **NOTE:** Many cell manufacturers include a “shock” or “superchlorinate” button on the equipment. While this will cause your cell to produce large amounts of chlorine, it also places *undo stress on the cell and reduces its life. It also adds excessive chlorine to the pool, which prevents immediate use of the pool.* Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Weekly Salt Shock Oxidizer** will instantly oxidize the pool water, but reduce the stress on the generator and allow swimming to resume sooner.
2. Test the total alkalinity and pH levels of the pool water with test strips or a testing kit. Adjust the total alkalinity level to the range of 80 - 120 ppm with **Alkalinity Increaser.** Once the total alkalinity is in the recommended range, add **pH Up** or **pH Down** to adjust the pH level into the ideal range of 7.2 - 7.8.. Remember to regularly test your water as salt chlorine generators have a tendency to raise pH levels.
3. Adjust sanitizer level to 1 - 4 ppm of chlorine according to your chlorine generator directions.

MONTHLY

Monthly maintenance is a breeze with Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Monthly Salt Maintenance.** Add Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Monthly Salt Maintenance** to remove organic contaminants, restore water clarity and prevent deposits from forming on the generator's cell.



Easy Maintenance

PREPARATION FOR THE WEEKEND - FRIDAY

1. Test the pH, total alkalinity and sanitizer levels of the pool water with test strips or a testing kit. If necessary, adjust levels with pH Up, pH Down or Alkalinity Increaser.
2. Add 6 fl. oz. of **Algae Erase**™ algaecide per 10,000 gallons of water to prevent algae formation. **Algae Erase**™ algaecide can help reduce the work load on your generator by not only controlling algae growth, which would tend to increase the chlorine consumption in your pool, but also acts as a clarifier by removing algae fast.
3. Add 4 fl. oz. of **Cell Extend** scale control per 10,000 gallons water to keep your generator cell operating efficiently.
4. Add 4 fl. oz. of **Enzyme Clarifier** per 10,000 gallons to help breakdown oily organic materials such as suntan lotions and cosmetics that can create scum lines and clog filters.

WEEKEND CLEAN-UP - SUNDAY

1. Vacuum pool and clean out skimmer basket.
2. Wipe off water line and pool accessories with a soft towel. Spray on **Speed Clean Citrus** to dissolve grease and grime on pool accessories.
3. Add 1 lb. of Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Weekly Salt Shock Oxidizer** per 10,000 gallons of water to rid the water of contaminants and restore water sparkle.
4. Check filter operation. Refer to filter manufacturer's direction regarding when to backwash or clean filter. Use **Back Wash** (as directed on bottle) to remove organic and inorganic buildup and clean sand particles during the backwash cycle.

DURING THE WEEK - MONDAY-THURSDAY

1. Test the pH, total alkalinity and sanitizer levels of the pool water with test strips. If necessary, adjust the levels with pH Up, pH Down or Alkalinity Increaser.

Pool Closing

TREAT THE WATER

1. Add 2 lbs. Salt Solutions by Ultima® **Weekly Salt Shock Oxidizer** per 10,000 gallons water to destroy organic contaminants.
2. Add 12 fl. oz. **Algae Erase**™ algaecide per 10,000 gallons of water to prevent algae growth.

If in a mild climate where the pool is left full and uncovered with the filtration system still operating, regularly add **Algae Erase**™ algaecide and maintain proper chlorine levels.

CLEAN UP

1. Brush pool walls and floor. Vacuum debris from the pool bottom.
2. Clean the filter.
3. Lower the water if in an area where water must be lowered due to freezing conditions. Drain all water from pipes, pumps, heaters, filters and other pool equipment to prevent damage due to freezing. If in a mild climate where the pool is left full and uncovered, confirm with the manufacturer's directions if the filtration system should continue to operate.
4. Remove cell and use **PowerWash** cell cleaner to remove any buildup from the salt cell to prepare it for your pool opening next spring.