



Pool Treatment
Chemicals

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Guide to Winterising

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ON...

- Preparing your pool for winter
- Winterising your pool - (procedure)
- Chemical Treatments
- Avoiding Frost Damage
- Winterising Tips
- Chemical Handling

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PREPARING THE POOL FOR WINTER

At the end of the outdoor swimming season, some simple procedures can ensure pool equipment protection is maximised and that water stays in reasonable condition; making it easier to open next spring.

If you are confident and have the desire, then winterising your own pool is an option, otherwise your Blue Horizons pool dealer will usually offer a full winterising service.

Some of the things that need to be done prior to winterising include:-

- Remove solar cover, clean it and pack it away carefully before storing it away. Store away from mice zones!!
- In soft water areas especially, a re-check and balance of the calcium hardness levels to the minimum 200ppm zone will ensure the pool structure is fully protected.
- Check the pH level and raise to 7.6 – 7.8, slightly higher than normal level (see winterising tips summary – pH levels for explanation on page 6)

WINTERISING YOUR POOL (PROCEDURE)

For pools fitted with a main drain.

- Lower the water level in the pool to approx 150 – 200mm below the skimmer mouth 'opening' on the pool. Then close the valve for the skimmer(s) on the plant room filter to avoid air suction via the skimmer and so water is drawn from the main drain only. Add your winterising chemicals whilst the circulation is still running for product distribution.

For pools without a main drain

- Add your winterising chemicals prior to draining down but whilst the circulation is running for product distribution. Then lower the water level in the pool to approximately 150 -200 mm below the skimmer mouth 'opening' on the pool.

CHEMICAL TREATMENTS

SHOCK TREATMENT

Before adding your winteriser, shock treat the pool to ensure all organic pollution, which in turn is food for algae, is removed to give your winter algaecide the best possible start. Keep your circulation system on for chemical distribution as per the previous section.

1. Add 10 mg/litre (ppm) shock dose using Blue Horizons Granular Shock, Blue Horizons Rapid Shock or Blue Horizons Shock 'n' Floc.

Dose rates for 10ppm		
	5,000 Gallons (22,700 Litres)	10,000 Gallons (45,450 Litres)
BH Granular Shock	350gm	700gm
BH Rapid Shock	325gm	650gm
BH Shock 'n' Floc	480gm	960gm

2. Add your chosen winteriser – see next section (below) for options.

WINTERISING WITH LONGER LASTING ALGAECIDE PRODUCTS

Blue Horizons Ultimate Winter Time (5 litres)

Non copper based algaecide with sequesterant, for the control of most types of algae, together with the prevention of staining and scale formation. Wide produce compatibility including chlorine, Bromine and Biguanide treated pools. Tolerant to pH range fluctuation.

Dose rates			
Litres	Gallons	Prevention	Top up
4,575	1,000	300 ml	150 ml
22,730	5,000	1.7 litres	550 ml
68,185	15,000	5 litres	1.66 litres



Blue Horizons AlgiMAX Eliminator (1 and 2 litres)

This dual action algaecide combines both copper and non-copper, and is a highly effective algae control product. It does not contain sequesterants for stain and scale control but is pH tolerant. Avoid using with copper/silver devices or any biguanide treated pools.

Dose rates			
Litres	Gallons	Prevention	Top up
4,575	1,000	100 ml	50 ml
22,730	5,000	500 ml	250 ml
68,185	15,000	1.5 litres	750 ml



KleenPool Longlife Algaecide (1 litre)

Leading brand copper based algaecide for the control of algae. Does not contain sequesterants and can be pH sensitive. Avoid using with copper/silver devices or any biguanide treated pools.

Dose rates		
Litres	Gallons	Prevention
4,575	1,000	160 ml
22,730	5,000	800 ml
68,185	15,000	2.4 litres

NB: 1 litre bottle treats 6,200 gallons (28,173 litres)



AND FINALLY... AFTER ADDING YOUR WINTERISER (AVOIDING FROST DAMAGE)

- Place bungs/stoppers into the water outlets to prevent rainwater entering the pipes.
- In the plant room, open the valve for the skimmer(s) and run the pump briefly for a few seconds only, to clear the skimmer pipelines of water.
- Turn the filtration system off.
- Drain down the pump, filter and heater as per the manufacturers instructions.
- Disconnect the pipe work from the pump. If your plant room is subject to freezing or condensation/damp conditions, then remove the pump to a warm dry place.





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OTHER USEFUL WINTERISING TIPS

1. Outdoor pools that suffer major water dilution may benefit from the addition of a pre-filled chlorine floating dispenser, set at the 'low' setting. This gives a chlorine output to the pool, taking pressure off your winterisation algicide. It also satisfies 2 below.
2. Float a couple of items in the pool, such as weighted old chemical containers (use small stones in the bottom to partially submerge). By submerging such floats this will take the pressure off the pool sides when and if ice forms.
3. Also put an old weighted small chemical container in the skimmer, even though initially the skimmer will be clear of water. As the rainwater builds up the skimmer may fill and this will help relieve the pressure off the skimmer when and if ice subsequently forms.
4. Fit your winter debris cover, to keep leaves and wind debris out of the pool during the closed periods. If you do not have a winter debris cover remove leaves and debris when the pool is frost free.
5. Top up your winterising fluid after 3 months, particularly after periods of heavy prolonged rain and if not using pre-filled floating chlorine tablet dispenser (as per 1 above). Consider shock treating with chlorine to 5mg/ litre (ppm) every 2 months, and using chemicals under Shock Treatments on page 3. Note this is only half the dose recommended for pre- winterising treatment.



CHEMICAL HANDLING

General Chemical Safety

- Always adhere to the instructions printed on the product label.
- Always handle chemicals in a well ventilated area, preferably outdoors.
- When pre-dissolving products always use a clean container.
- When pre-dissolving products always add product to water and not vice versa.
- Always keep chemicals out of the reach of children.
- Always wash hands after handling chemicals.
- Always store chemicals in a cool, dry place.
- Always put the lids back on chemical containers.
- Never use chemicals that don't have an instruction label.
- Never mix chemicals.

SUMMARY WINTERISING TIPS

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Chemicals | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Shock Treatment (p3)- Long lasting algaecides (p3/4) |
| Chlorine Floater Use | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Supports winterisers, especially where serious dilution occurs or leaves a major problem. |
| Frost Damage Avoidance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Keep water out of the system.- Remove pump to frost free area.- Use weighted partially submerged floaters in pool water and skimmers. |
| Leaf Control | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Affix winter debris cover or periodically remove leaves |
| pH levels 7.6 – 7.8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Higher than normal as colder water is more corrosive, and also allows buffer for acidic rainwater dilution. |
| Rainwater Dilution | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Top up winter algaecide after 3 months.- Use a chlorine tablet floater or shock dose to 5mg/l (ppm) every 2 months. |