

Above Ground Pool Care



The Complete Guide to Fun Pool
Water Maintenance

BRENTAG 



Tip!
If a product label is damaged or missing so that you are unable to read the instructions, do not use it. Contact your supplier for safe disposal.

1. Pool Water Safety

We are naturally drawn to water for healthy exercise and fun so it is important that we maintain good water quality so that it is safe for the bather. The person responsible for this water quality should be competent in the use of chemicals and understand the reasons for their use.

Misuse of chemicals can cause serious injury or death. Do not let this happen to you.

Some tips on the safe handling and use are included in this guide but if you are unsure about a procedure seek advice from a professional in the pool industry.

- **Always** read the label on each product and follow the instructions.
- **Never** mix chemicals.
- **Use clean containers** for pre dissolving chemicals.
- Fill the container with water and add the chemical to the water, **NEVER the other way round**. Mix thoroughly to dissolve.
- Try to **avoid spills** but in such an event use clean equipment to clear up. The best place to dispose of the spill could be in the pool.
- **Do not** add chemicals to the pool when it is in use
- Use chemicals in a **well ventilated area**. Beware of strong winds when using powders.
- Keep chemicals **away from children** and animals.

Many household chemicals can cause harmful reactions when mixed with pool or other chemicals.



2. Glossary of terms

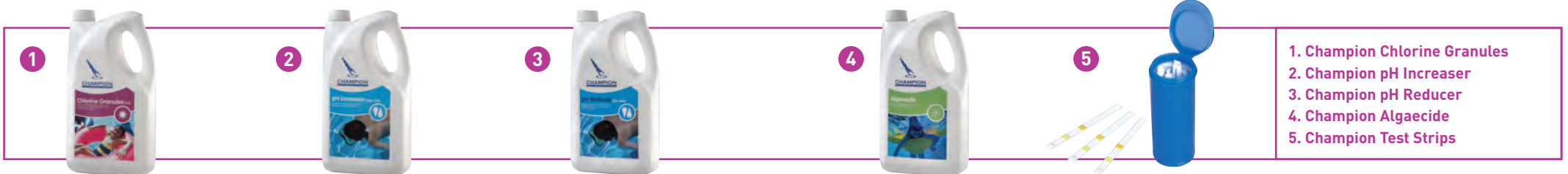
Term	Description
pH	This is the term used to indicate whether the water scale is forming or acidic. It uses a scale of 0-14 where 7 is neutral. 7.4 is ideal for pools.
ppm	Chlorine residuals are usually described in parts per million (ppm). Between 1 and 3ppm is ideal.
Shock dose	This refers to raising the chlorine levels usually to 10ppm to fight algae or other water problems.
Turnover	This refers to the filter rate usually in number of hours which is the amount of time it takes to filter the entire capacity of the pool. At least one full turnover per day is recommended.
Testing	If you have purchased a Champion Pool Starter Pack , you will have received 3-in-1 test strips to check for chlorine levels, pH and alkalinity. Please ensure that you test the pool water regularly. Do not guess!
Water balance	This term is used in conjunction with the pH and other factors to establish the nature of the water i.e. is it scale forming or acidic? Adjusting the water balance may be impractical in smaller above ground pools.
Alkalinity	The measure of alkaline salts relevant to water balancing.

Tip!

Scoop out any debris on a regular basis to reduce the chemical usage.

3. Initial pool filling

4. Normal Routine



1. Champion Chlorine Granules
2. Champion pH Increaser
3. Champion pH Reducer
4. Champion Algaecide
5. Champion Test Strips

Most pools come complete with a filter, these vary in size and type. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on their use. You are aiming for a pH of between 7.2 and 7.8, with 7.4 being the ideal. With the filter running, take time to get this right before adding any chlorine. Add a shock dose of **Champion Chlorine Granules** at the rate of 18grams per cubic meter of water and circulate for 24 hours. Test the water again and dilute with fresh water if the chlorine is above 5ppm.

- Be sure to run the filtration system for a period every day during the season even when not used.
- Increase the time the filter runs during warmer weather or when the pool is heavily used.
- Work out and make a note of the capacity of your pool.
- Consider the type of water in your area if it is scale forming (you will know that from your kettle) then you will need to lower the pH and in larger pools, the alkalinity as well. Use **Champion pH Reducer** (dry acid).
- In soft water areas you may find it necessary to increase the pH with **Champion pH Increaser** (soda ash)
- Add Champion Algaecide to aid the chlorine absorption and prevent the build up of algae.

Tip!

Smaller pools need more topping up relative to the volume so adjusting the alkalinity is not practical.

Tip!

Not sure about the pool capacity? Use the chart at the back of this guide.

Don't want to use chlorine?

Champion can offer a non-chlorine treatment, known as **Champion Oxidiser**, available in a range of pack sizes. Ask your local pool shop for details

- Test for chlorine daily and test again after heavy use or the addition of chemicals .
 - The amount of chlorine needed will depend on the weather conditions and bather load.
 - **Do not neglect the pH.** Incorrect pH levels lead to bather discomfort e.g. stinging eyes and poor disinfection.
 - Maintain a chlorine level of between 1 and 3ppm. 1.8 grams of Champion Chlorine Granules will raise the level by 1ppm in 1 cubic meter of water.
- Only when the chemicals have had time to dissolve and circulate within the pool is it safe to bathe. Pre-dissolving in warm water aids this process.**
- Encourage children to use the toilet before bathing.
 - Champion supply a range of test kits but the most popular for above ground is the easy-to-use test strips. Ask your supplier for a demonstration.

Tip!

Whatever the problem is, start by testing the chlorine and pH levels and check that the filter is running.

Tip!

Consider having a spare cartridge to use whilst one is being cleaned.

5. Problem solving

Problem	Possible Cause	What to do
Chlorine smell	Could be too little chlorine	Test and adjust to between 1-3ppm, Consider shock dosing
	Too much chlorine	Dilute the pool with fresh water
Green pool	Usually an algae bloom	Shock dose with chlorine and add Champion Algaecide. Try increasing the filtration time for a period
	Could be an indication of iron	Ask your pool shop to test for you.
Cloudy water	Poor or inadequate filtration	Clean the filter with Champion Cartridge Cleaner. Use Champion Flocculant Granules or Champion Pool Sparkle to make the water clear. Increase the filter run time.
Slimy or greasy walls or floor	Lack of chlorine	Brush walls and floor. Increase the chlorine levels. Consider shock dosing.
pH difficult to control	Very hard or soft water	Check the alkalinity and consider balancing the water. Seek advice on this procedure.
Stinging eyes	pH too high or too low	Test and adjust.

6. Speciality Chemicals



Product	Description
Algaecide	Champion can offer both a longlife and a standard Algaecide in the range. The Champion Longlife Algaecide¹ is not usually suitable for small above ground pools due to the relatively high water usage. The standard Champion Algaecide² is ideal.
Clarifiers	Champion Pool Sparkle ³ is a liquid added to the pool water to aid filtration and is generally suitable for both cartridge and sand filters. Champion Filter Floc tablets ⁴ are suitable for sand filters.
Conditioner	Cyanuric acid is a chlorine stabiliser and reduces the loss of chlorine to sunlight, which is particularly useful for larger pools. Ask your local pool shop for Champion Chlorine Stabiliser⁵
Filter cleaner	A clogged filter can lead to poor water quality. Champion Spa Cartridge Cleaner⁶ will help to prolong the effective use of the filter.





Brenntag Uk & Ireland, Albion House,
Rawdon Park, Green Lane, Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7XX
Tel: 0113 387 9200 Fax: 0113 387 9280
www.championpoolandspa.co.uk

Follow the manufacturer's instructions on filtration times and increase if water conditions are poor.

Pool Volumes: To calculate the volume of your pool in cubic metres:

Length x width x average depth = cubic metres

or,

length x width x average depth x 6.25 = cubic gallons

Or, for a round pool:

Radius x radius x 3.142 x depth = cubic metres

Typical examples of above ground pool dimensions:

(Please note that these are only given as a guideline and are not exact)

12 foot x 3 foot

Normally holds 2000 gallons of water
(9 cubic meters)

15 foot x 4 foot

Normally holds 45000 gallons of water
(21 cubic meters)

12 foot x 4 foot

Normally holds 3000 gallons of water
(14 cubic meters)

18 foot x 4 foot

Normally holds 65000 gallons of water
(30 cubic meters)

15 foot x 3 foot

Normally holds 3500 gallons of water
(16 cubic meters)

Always shower before entering the pool.