

The SIMPLE Pool Opening Guide



STRIP! Remove the cover from the pool.

The pool has sat dormant for a few months with a cover on for a reason. The cover acted as a barrier to keep dirt and leaves from entering the pool water during the winter months. Covers accumulate quite a collection of leaves and dirt that we want to clean before we attempt to pull it off. Sometimes trying to rush a pool opening leads to a huge deposit of the debris into the pool water.

1. Pump the dirty water off the pool cover with a submersible pump.
2. Use **Spray-On Cleaner™** while the cover is still on the pool (mesh or solid) to help break down off season grime. Let it sit for at least 15-20 minutes.
3. Brush cover and rinse with fresh water.
4. Pull the clean cover off the pool and spread it out in the yard.
5. Let cover dry completely.
6. Roll the cover up and store it for the season.

Begin filling the pool to the proper level if necessary.



INVENTORY Check all of your pool supplies from the previous season.

This is a great time for your customers to take an inventory of the pool supplies they have accumulated over the years. Taking a physical inventory either as their service professional or asking for that to be done in advance will save time at opening.

Suggestions:

1. Write down in a notebook the names of the chemicals you currently have and the approximate quantity.
2. Pull out your Tele-pole and verify that it is in full working order.
3. Inspect leaf rakes, leaf bags, brushes and vacuums for condition. Make sure the V shaped tension clips are not brittle and in place.
4. Inspect your water testing products. Check your expiration dates on all water testing strips and reagents. Make sure you are going into the season with enough to test a few times each week.



MAINTENANCE Tasks to prevent possible future issues.

The best time to do annual maintenance items is before any drop of water begins to flow through the system. We want these things to be done before the filter gets filled with water which could possibly make the job more difficult.

1. Inspect the skimmer baskets. Replace the skimmer baskets if the plastics have become brittle or damaged.
2. Look at the pump for any damage or possible leaks. Inspect the pump basket at this time and check pump basket lid o-ring for wear.
3. Examine the filter thoroughly for any issues. Check the body for any cracks. Look very carefully at all the o-rings for any wear and replace if necessary.
4. Make sure the filter pressure gauge is properly operating and in good working order. The filter pressure gauge is a very important piece of equipment that is often overlooked.
5. If filter elements were not cleaned at closing, remove them (DE & Cartridge) and soak for at least 6 hours using **Filter Perfect™**. It is important to start the season with a clean filtration system.



PLUMBING Don't forget to get your plumbing ready.

Plumbing for a pool is often forgotten about because it is not overly visible to the pool owner. Because the plumbing system is not seen, it never really gets the full attention it deserves. Many pools will have hundreds of linear feet of plumbing that gradually builds up a scum inside. Cleaning the plumbing before the pool is in full operation is a good practice for success. There are several things that can be done with the plumbing system in the spring to make the season a lot simpler with much less issues.

1. Walk around the pool and do a physical inspection of the pool's circulation system.
2. Take an inventory of the returns and make sure they are operating properly. Inspect the eyeball fittings to make sure there are no cracked retaining rings.
3. Position the rings to point downward at a 45 degree angle. They also need to be all pointing in the same direction moving the water in a circular motion (example all down and to the right).
4. Take this opportunity to clean the plumbing lines of gunk that typically builds up over time using **Purge™**. It cleans where you can't!
5. Once you have reached this step, the pool system should now be connected and circulating.



LEVELS Chemically balance the pool water.

This is usually the only step that people think about when they go to open their pool every season. Getting the pool back into chemical balance after sitting dormant for the winter can take some time, but following a few steps can really make this the easiest of them all.

1. Let the pool circulate for at least 24 to 48 hours. This allows the pool water enough time to ensure a good mixing has taken place. Once properly circulated, a water sample can be taken and will be a good representative of the pool water.
2. Conduct a water test and balance the pool as needed.
3. Add **Pool Magic™ + PHOSfree®**, a spring time enzyme and phosphate removal product that will greatly speed up the cleaning of the water while reducing phosphate levels.
4. Ensure the proper levels of Cyanuric Acid (Stabilizer) are in the pool. The spring time is the best time to add CYA if needed. Try **Instant Pool Water Conditioner®**, our liquid stabilizer, to obtain this level more quickly.
5. If you decide to heat the pool, it is best to turn on the heating system once the water chemistry has been balanced.



ENJOY your pool all season!

If you take the time to properly open your pools in the spring, you will avoid a lot of issue and pitfalls down the road. A properly operating pool is much easier to maintain and stay in balance than to bring back a pool that has been experiencing problems. Small issues always become much larger ones, and always at the worst time.

The old saying that ***an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of a cure*** is very true when it comes to your swimming pool. The best thing that pool owners can do to enjoy an entire successful swimming pool season is to get started on the right path from the beginning.

IMPORTANT TIP: Be sure to test for phosphates for a problem free pool season.

