

Analyzing Test Results and Adjusting Pool Water



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1-888-AquaChek

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Important! Retain! **Instructions for use **Tips/Warranty Information

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To keep your pool at its best, test at each end a minimum of twice a week, and test your spa before each use.

Free Chlorine – Ideal Reading: Pool 1.0 – 3.0 ppm; Spa 3.0 – 5.0 ppm

To maintain a clean and clear pool, keep the free chlorine level in the right range. Free chlorine is the portion of the total chlorine remaining in chlorinated water that has not reacted to contaminants – and is “free” to go to work to kill bacteria and other contaminants.

Shock Treatment – Contrary to popular belief, a strong chlorine smell is not an indication of too much chlorine in the pool but actually a red flag that a super dose of chlorine may be required to correct the problem. Shock treatment adds a larger-than-normal amount of oxidizing chemicals to pool water. The ideal frequency for a super dose is every week, depending on use and water temperature.

Decreasing Total Alkalinity – When the total alkalinity is too high, you can lower it by using muriatic acid or sodium bisulfate.

Bromine – Ideal Reading: 2.0 – 6.0 ppm

To obtain bromine result, multiply free chlorine value by 2.2. Bromine is a popular pool and spa sanitizer often used instead of chlorine. Environmental conditions (leaves, rain) and usage (how many folks are enjoying the pool or spa) will add contaminants in the water. Those contaminants will decrease the bromine existing in the water. Be sure to test the bromine before entering the water. Even if the system is dormant or not in use, you should test the bromine level at least weekly to prevent any buildup of bacteria or algae.

pH – Ideal Reading: 7.2 – 7.8

Losing control of pH in the water unleashes a whole series of problems. The pH can damage metal equipment and plaster walls if it gets out of balance. A swimmer's body has a pH between 7.2 and 7.8 so, if the pool water isn't kept in this range, swimmers will start to feel irritation of their eyes and skin. Finally, the pH must stay in the proper range to maximize the efficiency of chlorine. If the pH is low, below 7.2, the water is too acidic and it can damage the piping and pool surfaces under certain conditions. You can use sodium carbonate (soda ash) to increase pH when levels are too low. Other chemicals that can raise the pH are sodium bicarbonate and sodium sesquicarbonate.

Above 7.8, the water is more alkaline (basic) and under certain conditions can form deposits in the piping and on pool surfaces. Sodium bisulfate and muriatic acid can lower the pH when it gets too high.

Superchlorination Chart – Pools

(Amount Needed to Introduce 10 ppm)
Tabla de supercloración – Piscinas

Type of Chlorine	Pool Volume			
	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	15,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
Sodium Hypochlorite	13/4 qts.	3 1/4 qts.	11/4 gal.	2 gal.
Dichlor	1.7 L	3.0 L	4.7 L	7.6 L
Lithium	11 oz.	1 1/3 lbs.	2 lbs.	3 1/3 lbs.
Calcium Hypochlorite	311 g	605 g	908 g	1.5 kg
	10 oz.	1 1/4 lbs.	2 lbs.	3 1/4 lbs.
	284 g	568 g	908 g	1.5 kg

Lowering pH Using Dry Acid (Sodium Bisulfate)

(When pH is over 7.8, add the amount of acid indicated below, then retest)
Disminución de pH con ácido seco (bisulfito de sodio)

pH Level	Pool Volume			
	1,000 gal.	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
3.0 – 7.0	3.8 L	19 L	38 L	57 L
7.8 – 8.0	0.1 L	0.3 L	0.6 L	0.9 L
8.0 – 8.4	45 g	136 g	272 g	408 g
Over 8.4	0.2 L	0.5 L	1 Lb.	1 1/2 Lbs.
	91 g	227 g	454 g	681 g
	0.3 Lb.	0.8 Lb.	1 1/2 Lbs.	2.3 Lbs.
	136 g	363 g	681 g	1 kg
				1.8 kg

Raising Alkalinity With Sodium Bicarbonate

Aumento de la alcalinidad con bicarbonato de sodio

Chlorination Chart – Spas	Pool Volume			
	1,000 gal.	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
Sodium Hypochlorite	948 L	1.9 kL	3.8 kL	5.7 kL
Dichlor	1/4 oz.	1/2 oz.	1 1/2 oz.	2 1/4 oz.
	7.0 g	14.2 g	28.4 g	42.6 g
Sodium Hypochlorite	1 oz.	2 oz.	4 oz.	8 oz.
	29.6 mL	59.1 mL	118 mL	187 mL
Lithium Hypochlorite	1/2 oz.	1 oz.	2 oz.	4 oz.
	14.2 g	28.3 g	56.7 g	93.4 g

Lowering Alkalinity With Dry Acid (Sodium Bisulfate)

Disminución de la alcalinidad con ácido seco (bisulfito de sodio)

Decrease in Total Alkalinity in ppm	Pool Volume			
	1,000 gal.	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
3.8 L	3.8 L	19 L	38 L	57 L
2 1/2 oz.	2 1/2 oz.	12 oz.	1 1/2 lbs.	2 1/4 lbs.
2 1/2 oz.	62 g	340 g	681 g	1 kg
2 1/2 oz.	12 oz.	3 lbs.	4 1/2 lbs.	7 1/2 lbs.
5 oz.	135 g	681 g	14 kg	25 kg
5 oz.	12 oz.	3 1/4 lbs.	7 1/2 lbs.	18 3/4 lbs.
5 oz.	340 g	1.7 kg	3.4 kg	5 kg

Raising pH with Soda Ash (Sodium Carbonate)

(When pH is under 7.2, add the amount of soda ash indicated below, then retest)
Aumento de pH con carbonato sódico

Type of Chlorine	Pool Volume			
	1,000 gal.	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
Sodium Hypochlorite	5 1/2 oz.	10 1/2 oz.	21 oz.	34 oz.
Dichlor	163 mL	310 mL	673 mL	1100 mL
	1 oz.	2 1/4 oz.	5 1/4 oz.	8 1/4 oz.
	35.4 g	70.8 g	141.6 g	227.2 g
Calcium Hypochlorite	1 oz.	2 oz.	3 oz.	5 oz.
	28.3 g	56.7 g	85 g	142 g
Trichlor	3 1/4 oz.	6 1/2 oz.	12 1/4 oz.	21 1/4 oz.
	42.5 g	85 g	136 g	216 g

Chlorination Chart – Pools

(Amount Needed to Introduce 1 ppm)
Tabla de Cloración – Piscinas

Type of Chlorine	Pool Volume			
	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	15,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
Sodium Hypochlorite	19 L	38 L	57 L	95 L
Dichlor	11 oz.	22 oz.	34 oz.	51 oz.
	605 g	1.2 kg	2.1 kg	3.3 kg
Calcium Hypochlorite	10 oz.	20 oz.	30 oz.	45 oz.
	284 g	568 g	908 g	1.3 kg

Raising pH with Carbonic Acid

(When pH is under 7.2 add the amount of carbonic acid indicated below, then retest)
Aumento de pH con ácido carbónico

Type of Chlorine	Pool Volume			
	1,000 gal.	5,000 gal.	10,000 gal.	25,000 gal.
Sodium Hypochlorite	19 L	38 L	57 L	95 L
Dichlor	11 oz.	22 oz.	34 oz.	51 oz.
	605 g	1.2 kg	2.1 kg	3.3 kg
Calcium Hypochlorite	10 oz.	20 oz.	30 oz.	45 oz.
	284 g	568 g	908 g	1.3 kg

Precautionary Labels

Read all labels and tags attached the instrument. Personal injury or damage to the instrument, due to incorrect use of the meter, can occur.

Maintenance

• Wipe the test strip slot with fresh water and a cotton swab occasionally. This will prevent any buildup.

• Never use harsh chemicals and/or abrasive materials on the TruTest meter.

Storage

• Store the meter out of direct sunlight to protect the meter from UV damage.

• If meter will not be used for several months, remove the batteries.

• This is a water resistant case. If the meter falls into the water, remove and dry the batteries and battery compartment before use.

