Caring for your Cement Based Surface & Pool

(Plaster, Diamond Brite & Pebblecrete)

Start-up

Fill the pool by the water hose as set up by the Mid-America Pool Renovation, Inc. work crew. Do not stop water until the pool is completely full. If the water is stopped before the pool is full, a ring at the water line may develop that will be difficult if not impossible to remove. Should a second hose be added later, make sure it is placed in the deep end of the pool striking the water accumulated by the first hose. Do not lay the hose on the pool floor or let the water strike any part of the new surface. The pool is safe to swim in once it is full of water.

Pools lights are water-cooled so do not turn on the light until the pool is full.

No swimming, pets, or curiosity trips into the pool before the pool is full, as tracks are sure result.

Unless instructed differently, NEVER under any circumstances spray or hose down the surface.

Do not add salt or turn on a salt generator system or salt conversion system for a minimum of **30-days** to allow for proper surface curing.

Do not

Maintenance

After the filter has been started the pool should be brushed twice daily for the first fourteen days, and vacuumed as needed to remove any plaster dust. Depending on water source conditions, residue may accumulate in newly surfaced pools and produce a cloudy appearance until cleared by the filter system. This is normal, but if not removed the residue may harden and the surface can become extremely rough. Vacuum as normal.

Filter pads should be removed and cleaned regularly during this period. (Diatomaceous Earth Filters Only)

Keep the chemical balance of the pool water at the proper levels at all times. Check chemical levels after a storm.

Failure to keep a correct chemical balance may result in either a scale build-up or a chemical etching of the surface.

Stains and calcium deposits that develop on pool surfaces are normally removed professionally, either underwater or by draining and applying a light acid wash and/or sanding with a high speed sander and special sanding discs.

Do not drain the pool without consulting Mid America Pool Renovation, Inc., your contractor, or pool service company. Cement-based surfaces can be severely damaged if permitted to dry out. Draining is not recommended for at least 1 ½ years, except for major repair and then only under professional supervision.

Always consult technical instructions when using salt systems.

General Material Qualifications

Cement-based surfaces are comprised of natural materials and are installed over other natural products.

All cement-based materials are porous by nature. Streaks, stains, discoloration and spotting can reflect and appear on the pool surface from foreign and organic impurities in the pool shell over which the work crew has no control. Likewise, a foreign impurity that may land on the surface during the filling of the pool, after the work crew has left the job site, or after the pool is full of water can cause a mark or spot.

Minor stains can be removed easily with 80 – 100 grit wet & dry sanding paper underwater.

Professionally done, acid washing can be used to clean pool surfaces. However, each time the surface is acid washed some of the cement binder is removed, and the limestone or quartz aggregate is exposed. In other words, each time the pool is acid washed the surface becomes rougher, and the aggregates components are more prone to release.

Colored interiors are susceptible to discoloration, fading and botching, otherwise known as mottling. Industry standards define mottling as a uniform shading, blotchy, or cloudy appearance across the surface of a cementitious coating. This is normal and expected in all cement-based materials and is particularly more pronounced in colored surfaces.

Pool Industry Chemical Standards

These guidelines set forth the suggested operational parameters for proper chemical treatment and maintenance of swimming pool waters. Chemical treatment alone will not produce sanitary pool water. A filtration system in proper operational condition is also required to attain sparkling clear, polished sanitary water.

Unless pool care is provided by a professional pool service company, we recommend that you take a sample of water in for computer analysis and follow those recommendations.

Disinfectant Levels

	Limits	**Ideal**
Free Chlorine	1.0-10.0	2.0-5.0
Combined Chlorine, ppm		0.2
Bromine, ppm	2.0-10.0	4.0-6.0
Iodine, ppm	Levels not established	

Chemical Values

	Limits	**Ideal**
pH	7.2-7.8	7.4-7.6
Total Alkalinity (buffering), ppm as CaCO3	60-180	80-100 for Calcium Hypo chlorite & Sodium Hypo chlorite. 100-120 for Sodium Dichlor, Trichlor, chlorine gas & bromine compounds.
Total dissolved solids, ppm	300-3000	1000-2000
Calcium hardness, ppm as $CaCO_3$	150-1000+	200-400
Heavy metals	NA	NA

Biological Values

	Limits	**Ideal**
Algae	None	None
Bacteria	None	Refer to local code

Stabilizer (if used)

	Limits	**Ideal**
Cyanuric acid, ppm	10-150: Except where limited by Health Dept. require often to 100 ppm.	30-50

Remedial Practices

	Limits	**Ideal**
Super chlorination frequency	Monthly – Weekly when temp is over 85 F	Every other week
Super chlorination to establish break point, doage in ppm	5-	10
Shock treatment, doage in ppm	10	
Clarifying/Floccing frequency		When needed
Algaecides		Follow Maunufacturer's directions
Temperature		78-82

For salt water sanitation, The National Plasterer's Council recommends that no salt be added for 28 days.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT US.
(816) 994-3300