



POOL CARE GUIDE



**READY IN
A SPLASH**



HTH® Pool Care Guide

At HTH® Pool Care Products, we know that pool owners all want the same thing- sparkling blue, crystal clear water. We've been helping families have backyard fun in sparkling blue swimming pools since 1928. HTH® Pool Care Products are color-coded to make it easy for you to find the product you need and to follow our 4-Step Program. By simply looking at the package you'll be able to see which step you are completing in the 4-Step Program.

We hope the pool care tips and helpful hints in this guide make caring for your pool easier and more relaxing than ever. We're ready to help you create sparkling blue, crystal clear water so you can enjoy your pool the way it was meant to be.

QUESTIONS?

Our pool and spa care experts are available to answer your questions daily from 8 am to 10 pm EST. We're Here to Help!



Phone

1-866-HTH-POOL (1-866-484-7665)



Web

hthpools.com



HTH™ Online Chat

hthpools.com/troubleshooting (click the chat icon)



Email

hthpoolcare@gmail.com

Emergency Contact

1-800-654-6911

Chemical Exposure

If you are exposed to pool or spa chemicals and require medical attention, contact a physician immediately and follow the appropriate steps as listed below:

- In the event of skin or eye contact with chlorine products, flush the area with water for at least 15 minutes.
- If chemicals are accidentally ingested, sip on water, but do not induce vomiting. Never give anything to drink to an unconscious person.
- If fumes have been inhaled, move the affected person to fresh air as quickly as possible.
- If there is an emergency requiring immediate medical attention, call 911 immediately.

If you have an incident involving HTH® Pool Care Products call 1-800-654-6911. This is the Lonza Emergency Action Network (LEAN). The experts who answer the phone are all trained to assist you in an emergency.

- Call the Lonza Emergency Action Network (LEAN) line for assistance in disposing of chemicals. Do not throw them in the trash.
- If any of your pool chemicals spill, call the LEAN line for special handling instructions.
- Do not backwash into a storm drain, stream, or river.
- Do not throw spilled material into trash.
- A spill requires emergency handling if there is any sign of activity such as a bulging container, bubbling, hissing, gassing, smoking or fire. In such an event, call the LEAN line and notify them of the activity.

In an effort to make sure we are engaging and connecting with you beyond the pool, we have expanded our reach to some of the most popular social media platforms available.

These social media channels offer you a way to interact with us and learn more about pool care. When visiting our branded social media platforms you are able to:

- Watch HTH® branded how-to videos explaining everyday pool care
- Learn about 4-step product information
- Post questions about pool care maintenance
- Participate in current promotions
- Receive helpful troubleshooting tips for taking care of pool water
- Chat live with a pool or spa care expert
- Connect and share with other pool owners

We encourage you to “like” and “follow” HTH® Pool Care and share them with your family and friends.



Facebook

facebook.com/hthpoolcare



YouTube

youtube.com/hthpoolcare



Pinterest

pinterest.com/hthpoolcare



Instagram

instagram.com/hthpoolcare



Google+

google.com/+hthpoolcare

HTH Pool Care is constantly working to provide you the tools and know-how to give you clean, clear water. Subscribe to the HTH® Pool Care Channel to view our helpful How-To Videos on the topics shown plus more.



Pool Care Basics

- Opening Your Pool- The Basics
- How to Winterize Your Pool



Step 1: Test & Balance

(purple)

- How to Test and Balance Your Pool
- Importance of Keeping Your Pool Water Balanced



Step 2: Sanitize

(yellow and orange)

- How to Choose an HTH® Sanitizer



Step 3: Shock Weekly

(red)

- How to Shock Your Pool with HTH® Green to Blue Shock System
- How to Add Shock Products to Your Pool



Step 4: Prevent Algae

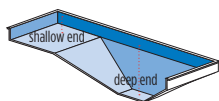
(green)

- How to Treat Algae in Your Pool

For more HTH® how-to videos visit us on youtube.com/hthpoolcare.

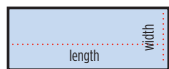
It is important to know your pool's capacity before adding any products to your pool water. If you do not know the capacity of your pool, simply use the formulas below to calculate the approximate capacity.

Calculate Average Depth in feet:



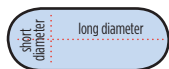
$$\frac{\text{Deep end depth (ft)} + \text{Shallow end depth (ft)}}{2} = \text{Average Depth (ft)}$$

For a Rectangular or Square Pool:



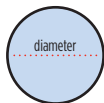
$$\text{Length (ft)} \times \text{Width (ft)} \times \text{Average Depth (ft)} \times 7.5 = \text{Pool Capacity (gal)}$$

For an Oval Pool:



$$\text{Short Diameter (ft)} \times \text{Long Diameter (ft)} \times \text{Average Depth (ft)} \times 5.9 = \text{Pool Capacity (gal)}$$

For a Circular Pool:



$$\text{Diameter (ft)} \times \text{Diameter (ft)} \times \text{Average Depth (ft)} \times 5.9 = \text{Pool Capacity (gal)}$$

For a Free Form Pool:

$$\text{Surface (sq ft)} \times \text{Average Depth (ft)} \times 7.5 = \text{Pool Capacity (gal)}$$

What better way to kick off summer than by spending time with family and friends by the pool? We like to think clear, blue water just splashes better! When it's time to open your pool for the swimming season, let HTH® Pool Care Products get the water just right. Use the HTH® Pool Care Kit for Opening & Closing and follow the simple steps below:

Always read and follow label directions carefully.

Prepare the Equipment

1. Remove any water and debris that have accumulated on your pool cover during the winter.
2. Remove and clean the cover. Allow it to dry, then store it properly to prevent mildew and premature deterioration.
3. Make sure your skimmer(s), filter, pump(s), drain(s) and other equipment are clean and free of winter debris.
4. Reconnect the pool pump and filter. Reconnect any hoses and electrical connections that may have detached.
5. Use the HTH® Leaf Skimmer to scoop up all surface and submerged debris.
6. Clean dirty pool walls with the HTH® Curved Wall Brush.
7. Bring the pool water up to the proper level (half way up the skimmer).
8. Make sure all hoses and electrical reconnects are in order.
9. Turn on filter pump.
10. Check the skimmers, drains, and filters to make sure they're functioning properly.
11. Use the HTH® Multi-Surface Vacuum Head along with the HTH® 35' Universal Swimming Pool Vacuum Hose to remove any debris from the bottom of the pool.
12. Run the filter for 12 hours before testing the water.

Prepare the Pool Water

1. Test and balance water using the HTH® 6-way Test Strips included in the kit.
2. Adjust the Total Alkalinity, pH, and Calcium Hardness to the ideal levels recommended in the Balanced Pool Care Chart on page 7.
3. If needed, stabilize your water using HTH® Stabilizer & Conditioner.
4. To help prevent algae growth, add 3 oz. per 10,000 gallons of HTH® Algae Guard Granules through the skimmer. Circulate the water for at least 1 hour to disperse the product.
5. Protect the pool surfaces from staining by adding 10.4 oz. of HTH® Metal Control Granular for up to 10,000 gallons of pool water. Add product over the deepest part of the pool.
6. Circulate the water for 24 – 48 hours.
7. Shock treat the pool water by using one or two bags of HTH® Shock 'N Swim per 11,500 gallons of water. Add product over the deepest part of the pool. Allow 30 minutes for the product to disperse.
8. Next day, test the free available chlorine level (FAC) to ensure it is in the range 1.0-4.0 ppm. Add your choice of HTH® sanitizer products to maintain the ideal range for FAC. Entry to the pool is prohibited if the free chlorine level is above 4 ppm.
9. Continue with routine maintenance following the 4-Step Program.

For pool closing instructions, visit hthpools.com/closepool.

Balanced water means clear water.
This chart outlines the ideal levels for balanced pool care.

IDEAL LEVELS AND HTH® PRODUCTS USED FOR BALANCED POOL CARE

Parameter	What is it?	When to Test	Ideal Range	Product Used to Adjust Levels
Total Alkalinity (TA) ¹	The water's ability to keep the pH at a proper level	Weekly	60-120 ppm	HTH® Alkalinity Plus
pH	A measure of the water's acidity	Daily	7.2-7.6 ppm ²	HTH® pH Plus or HTH® pH Minus
Free Available Chlorine (FAC)	The amount of active chlorine in the water	Daily	1-4 ppm when	HTH® Sanitizers or HTH® Shock products
Calcium Hardness (CH)	The amount of dissolved calcium in the water	Daily	200-500 ppm	HTH® Calcium Plus
Cyanuric Acid/Stabilizer (CYA) ³	Measures the level of protection for FAC from ultraviolet rays of the sun <i>(these rays decrease chlorine in pool water)</i>	Twice per Season	Ideal Range 20-50 ppm Do not exceed 100 ppm	HTH® Stabilizer & Conditioner

1) Adjust your alkalinity levels first before adjusting your pH levels. Once you have reached an ideal range for alkalinity then test your pH levels again and add the recommended amount of HTH® pH Plus or HTH® pH Minus to your pool water.

2) Adjust pH in the range of 7.2-7.6 when using HTH® Chlorinating Granules or HTH® 3-in-1 Chlorinating Skimmer Tablets. Adjust pH in the range of 7.2-7.8 when using HTH® 1" or 3" Chlorinating Tablets, HTH® Super 3" Chlorinating Tablets, HTH® Extended Skimmer Sticks or HTH® Ultra 3" Chlorinating Tablets.
 3) Allow at least 48 hours for the stabilizer to dissolve before backwashing or cleaning the filter.

Filtration and Circulation

Maintaining proper circulation and filtration is necessary to ensure efficient distribution of products and filtration of debris.

Filter Maintenance

Sand Filters

- Backwash the filter when the pressure increases 8 - 10 psi over initial reading.

Diatomaceous Earth Filters

- Follow the manufacturer's directions for backwashing and re-coat the filter with HTH® D.E. Filter Aid.

Cartridge Filter

- Clean the filter per the manufacturer's directions.
- Use HTH® Filter Cleaner with natural protein additives to clean all three filter types at least twice a season.

Water Circulation

- Make sure all equipment is working properly and in place.
- Run the pump and filter at least 10-12 hours per day-sometimes longer during peak swimming.
- Chemically clean the filter at least twice per season- Use HTH® Filter Cleaner.
- Position return inlets downward at 45° and slightly to one side.
- Clean skimmer baskets and hair and lint strainer (on the pump).



Testing the water is a very simple process. Simply use an HTH® test kit or HTH® test strips to measure total alkalinity, pH, free chlorine, calcium hardness, and cyanuric acid/stabilizer.

After testing, the first step is to balance the water. Balanced water prevents corrosion, etching, equipment damage and scale buildup. It also ensures maximum sanitizer efficiency and optimizes comfort for swimmers.

Be sure to adjust your alkalinity levels first before adjusting your pH levels. Once you have reached an ideal range for alkalinity then test your pH levels and add the recommended amount of HTH® pH Plus or HTH® pH Minus to your pool water. See the chart on pages 8 and 9 for the ideal levels and HTH® products used for balanced pool care.

HTH® 4-Step Pool Care Program

HTH® Pool Care Products are color-coded to make it easy for you to find the product you need and to follow our HTH® 4-Step program to maintain sparkling blue, crystal clear water.



**Test
& Balance**



Sanitize



Shock



**Prevent
Algae**



STEP 2: Sanitize

HTH Pool Care offers two types of chlorine-based sanitizers: stabilized and unstabilized. See the chart below for a brief overview of the benefits of our sanitizers.

STABILIZED SANITIZERS



Stabilized sanitizers are formulated with cyanuric acid, which acts as a “sun defense” to protect the water from chlorine loss.

Features	HTH® 1" Chlorinating Tablets	HTH® 3" Chlorinating Tablets	HTH® Extended Skimmer Sticks	HTH® Super 3" Chlorinating Tablets	HTH® Ultra 3" Chlorinating Tablets
Stabilized	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ideal for above-ground/pop-up pools	✓				
Chlorinates up to one week		✓		✓	✓
Built-in algae fighter				✓	✓
Built-in clarifier				✓	✓
Softens water					✓
Stain & scale prevention					✓
Lasts up to 2 weeks			✓		

UNSTABILIZED SANITIZERS



Features	HTH® Super Chlorinating Granules	HTH® 3-in-1 Chlorinating Skimmer Tablets
For pop-up pools	✓	
Destroys bacteria	✓	✓
Controls algae	✓	✓
Restores crystal clarity to pool water	✓	✓
Good for all pool surfaces	✓	✓
Chlorinates up to one week		✓

Shock treating your pool weekly is important because it reduces the organic contaminants and microorganisms in your pool water. Super chlorination or shocking removes chloramines, which cause eye irritation and “chlorine” odors from the pool water.

HTH Pool Care recommends shocking at the same time and day each week. Sundown is the optimum time to shock your pool because the chlorine can work without fighting the sun’s ultraviolet rays and has more time to restore water clarity.

The weekly shock treatment goes a long way to ensuring your pool water is clean and clear. However, at times weather events or heavy pool usage may require additional shock treatments. The best way to know if an additional treatment is needed is to test the water with the HTH® Time to Shock?™ test strips.

These test strips provide a clear indication of the need to shock your pool, especially when any of the following situations occur:

- After a heavy swimmer load
- After strong rains and winds
- During periods of extreme sun
- Swimmers complain of burning eyes
- Unpleasant odors
- Signs of algae growth appear
- Water appears dull, hazy, or cloudy

SHOCKS



Features	HTH® Shock N' Swim	HTH® Super Select Shock Treatment	HTH® Ultra Complete Shock Treatment
% Active ingredient	47.6%	56.44%	56%
Gallons treated for shock treatment	11,500	12,500	12,000
Destroys bacteria and contaminants	✓	✓	✓
Compatible with all pool surfaces	✓	✓	✓
Fast dissolving	✓	✓	✓
Crystal clear results in 24 hours	✓	✓	✓
Built-in clarifying			✓
Softens water			✓
Scale Protection			✓



When you open your pool, or anytime during the season, if your pool looks like a bowl of pea soup, HTH® Green to Blue® Super Shock Treatment will return your pool to its splashiest blue. This two-part system kills bacteria and algae that have invaded your pool and make it easy to vacuum the settled debris to waste, leaving the pool sparkling blue within 24 hours.

Algae are microscopic forms of plant life that can inhabit your pool water. Some algae float in the water, whereas others cling to the sides of your pool. Algae are constantly blown into the pool by wind, dust storms and rain. Without an algae preventer, your water can easily become cloudy, discolored and eventually slimy and smelly.

Step 4 of the HTH® 4-Step Pool Care Program recommends the addition of a preventative algacide to help safeguard against an algae problem. It's easier to prevent algae, than to eliminate it. However, if you already have stubborn algae, using an HTH® algacide will alleviate the problem.

Remember, all HTH® algacides are non-foaming formulas.



If you have a pool with a salt chlorine generator, it is still important to follow a regular maintenance routine. Although your salt chlorine generator is producing your routine sanitizer (chlorine), other important pool care issues need your attention.

The same 4-Step Program recommended for traditional chlorine pools is also applicable to a pool using a salt chlorine generator for sanitization. Make sure to always follow the salt manufacturer instructions for warranty purposes, as some manufacturers prohibit the use of certain pool maintenance products with their device.

HTH® Salt Pool Care Products developed specifically for pools using a salt chlorine generator:

- HTH® Salt Pool Care Cell Saver extends life of salt chlorine generator cell, prevents scale buildup, and protects pool surfaces from staining
- HTH® Salt Pool Care 3-in-1 Startup clarifies cloudy, dull pool water, adds chlorine stabilizer and controls metal to prevent stains and scale.
- HTH® Salt Pool Care Restore & Balance balances water for optimal sanitizer effectiveness and restores water clarity.
- HTH® Salt Pool Care Test Strip Dual-Pack contains 10 test strips for use with salt chlorine generators. Tests for salt levels in pool. Also includes 25 of the HTH® 6-Way Test Strips.

ALGAECIDES

Features	HTH® Algae Guard 3X Concentrate	HTH® Super Algae Guard	HTH® Super Extended Algae Guard
Active ingredient	30% Active	60% Active	Copper-based formula
Non-foaming formula	✓	✓	✓
Preventative treatment	✓	✓	✓
Treats all types of algae	✓	✓	✓
Remedial treatment	✓	✓	✓
Long-lasting 90-day treatment			✓



For pools 12' to 18' (2000-5000 gallons)

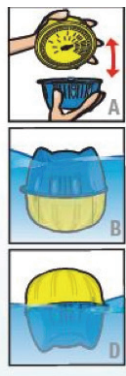
HEY! Cool Pool® Flip Plop® is an Automatic All-In-One pool care product that provides Fresh Mineral Water for above ground pools ranging from 2,000 to 5,000 gallons by using minerals and a lot less chlorine. When used with the *HTH® 4-Step pool care program*, your pool water will be cleaner, clearer, softer and easier to take care of.

Step 1 BALANCE:

Test the water with *HTH® 6-Way Test Strips* or *HTH® Multi-Purpose 6-Way Test Strips* to maintain total alkalinity, pH, cyanuric acid and calcium hardness levels.

Step 2: SANITIZE with HEY! Cool Pool® Flip Plop®:

- A. Push the two cartridges together and twist to the setting for your pool size (see chart in manual)
- B. Place HEY! Cool Pool® Flip Plop® in the pool
- C. Maintain a low 0.5-1.0 ppm chlorine level
- D. After 3-4 weeks when the chlorine cartridge is empty, HEY! Cool Pool® Flip Plop® flips over
- E. Twist apart and replace with a new chlorine cartridge
- F. Plop back into the pool



Step 3 SHOCK:

Use an HTH® shock product weekly

Step 4: PREVENT ALGAE:

For an extra step in hot climates where algae is prevalent, use an HTH® algaecide.

HTH CareSM is committed to your safety, and while no pool care guide can take the place of common sense and precaution, we recommend the following guidelines in order to help you and your family safely enjoy your pool.

Pool Product Safety:

Pool chemicals can be harmful if proper care is not taken. Contamination or improper use of these chemicals may cause a fire, explosion or the release of toxic gases. Read and follow all labels carefully.

ALWAYS

- Wear safety equipment when handling chemicals, including gloves, goggles, long sleeves and pants.
- Store your chemicals in cool, dry, well-ventilated places.
- Keep your chemicals tightly covered when not in use.
- Store liquids upright.
- Read product labels and follow directions when adding chemicals to your pool.
- Add pool chemicals directly to your pool.
- Isolate spilled chemicals, and read and follow directions for cleanup and disposal.
- Completely use up the product before disposing of the container.
- Thoroughly clean and dry product containers prior to disposal.
- Wash your hands thoroughly after handling chemicals.

NEVER

- NEVER allow pool chemicals to come into contact with your skin, eyes or mouth.
- NEVER inhale or ingest pool chemicals.
- NEVER add water to pool chemicals or expose them to small amounts of water. They can react violently to produce heat and toxic gases.
- NEVER put spilled products back into the container, doing so will contaminate the rest of the product.
- NEVER store chemicals in a place where they can be accessed by children or pets.
- NEVER store chemicals in a place where they can be contaminated by any other material. They can react with other materials, including other pool chemicals, to cause a fire, explosion, or release of toxic gases.
- NEVER pre-mix or pre-dissolve pool chemicals before adding them to your pool.
- NEVER mix different chemicals or allow pool chemicals to come into contact with other pool chemicals or any other materials.
- NEVER smoke, grill or allow any open flame near stored chemicals.
- NEVER dispose of product container without reading product label for directions.
- NEVER dispose of spilled product by pouring into trash or drain.





hthpools.com



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1-866-HTH-POOLS