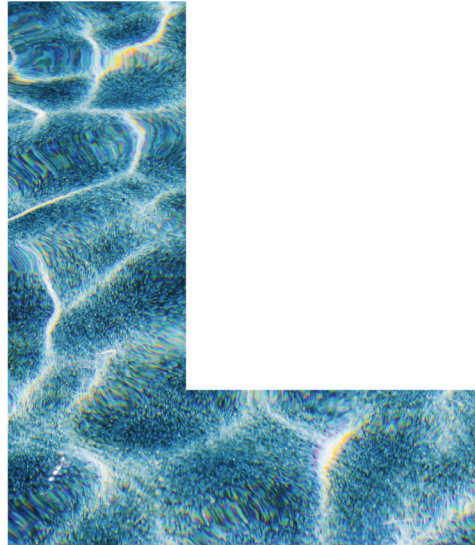


YOUR GUIDE TO A
perfect



A SHOCKINGLY EASY GUIDE TO POOL, SPA & BACKYARD CARE

PINCH·A·PENNY
POOL·PATIO·SPA
OVER 50 YEARS OF EXPERTISE

First IN



After 50 years, nobody understands the art of perfecting pools and pool fun like Pinch A Penny.

We've put our time-tested products, services and maintenance routines into this easy-to-follow publication, *The Perfect Pool*. It will give you all the knowledge you need to make pool care child's play.

ABOUT *us*

Pinch A Penny has more pool professionals who have become Certified Pool Operators by the Pool and Hot Tub Alliance than any other company. We've seen it all, and we've fixed the problem time and time again, and have shown our customers like you how to keep it from happening again.

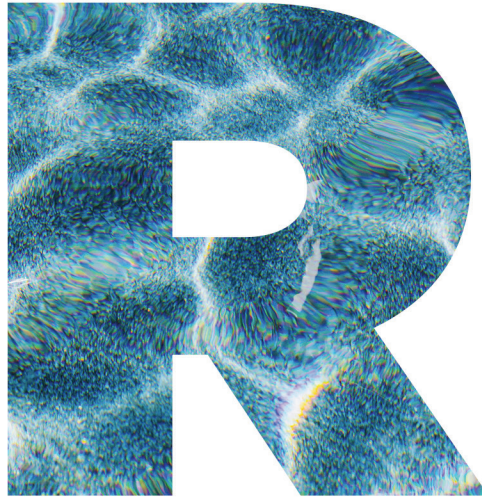
After all, you and your family are the most important thing that goes into your pool. So we're here to help you keep your water healthy, sparkling and always inviting.

Browse through this guide for tips, hints, background and the facts on pool care. Then collect a sample of your pool water and bring it in for a **free water analysis**. We'll not only check for chlorine, pH, acid or base demand, total alkalinity, calcium hardness, stabilizer and total dissolved solids – we'll keep an on-going history of your pool's condition. So every time we check your water, we get to know your pool a little better.

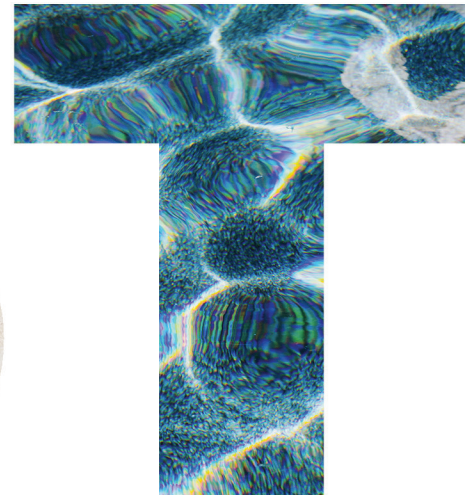


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THE EXPERTS



After 50 years, 300+ stores across the sunbelt states and aligning ourselves with the world's top pool and spa product manufacturers, it's safe to say that no one knows pools better than Pinch A Penny. Because not only are we the largest franchise pool and spa care company, our people are the most knowledgeable in the industry.

POOL & BACKYARD *Pros*

Pool & Home Services

We're more than just a pool store. We offer best-in-class pool cleaning service, equipment installation and repairs, plus, many locations offer a full suite of pool and home improvement services including:

Pool Cleaning & Maintenance: Get a custom pool cleaning plan based on your pool and it's needs. We'll handle it all from weekly testing to filter cleaning.

Pool Equipment Installation & Repair: We install, service and repair all major brand-name pool and spa equipment. With our highly trained technicians and fully equipped service vehicles, we can install or repair any type of pool equipment.

Pool Renovations: Protect and enhance your investment with our renovations and resurfacing services. Our pool pros can design and update your pool's tiles, finish, implement water features and much more so it's the oasis of your dreams!.

New Pool Construction: We're fully dedicated to bringing your backyard oasis to life by creating and curating custom pools that exceed expectations. From design to completion, we can turn any vision for your dream pool into a reality.

Pool Leak Detection & Repair: Our highly-trained techs will determine the location of the leak and will find an option to fix it as quickly as possible.

Pool Surface Refresh & Stain Treatment: Our expert techs will clean and wash the surface with a special acid mixture and help return your pool to a like-new finish!

Pressure Washing Service: Keep your pool deck, lanai, or patio looking fresh and clean. Prevent decaying of materials and add life to hard exterior surfaces around your home and swimming pool.

Screen Repair & Rescreening Services: Protect your pool from leaf debris and keep pests at bay. Whether you need a patch or a full-screen repair, we can take care of any screen-related tear or break—pool or not! We also service screen doors if needed.

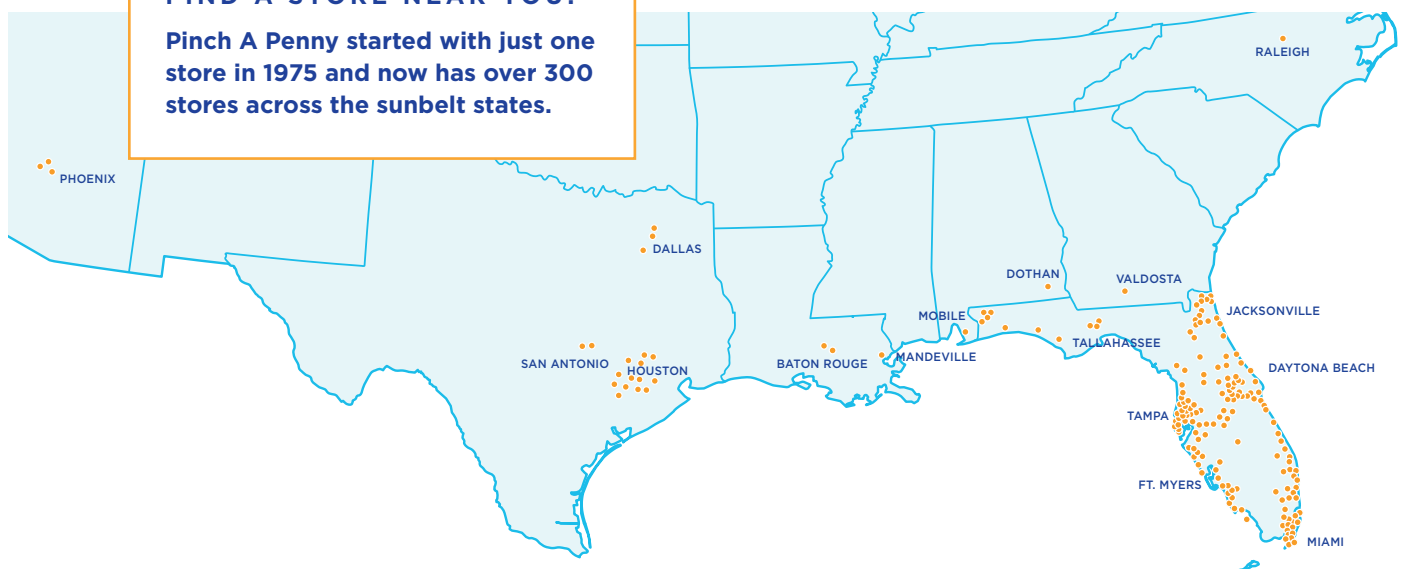
Home Landscape Lighting & Design: Enhance outdoor spaces around your home, illuminate walkways and entryways, or create a backyard oasis. We offer custom-designed, low-voltage landscape lighting solutions to fit any home or budget.

GET A *quote*



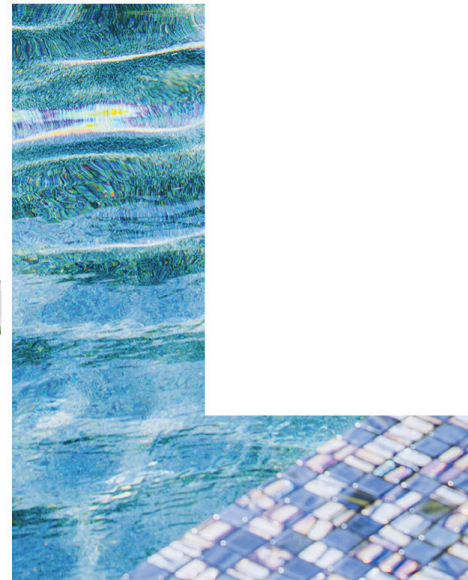
FIND A STORE NEAR YOU:

Pinch A Penny started with just one store in 1975 and now has over 300 stores across the sunbelt states.





MAINTAINING A HEALTHY



Keeping your pool clean, sanitary and crystal clear is always a must for maintaining an inviting backyard atmosphere. We provide all the tools you need whether it's a DIY solution or service by our experienced pool care team, we've got your back!

The following section gives you the information and tools you need to keep your pool healthy and beautiful.

UNDERSTANDING THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF A *healthy* POOL

The two most important things to remember about the health of your pool are that it must be sanitized and it must be balanced. The best way to sanitize your pool is with chlorine. Keeping your pool balanced, which means keeping the five basic pool water components (pH, total alkalinity, calcium hardness, total dissolved solids and stabilizer) within their proper ranges, helps your sanitizer work more effectively. That's why we say to achieve a healthy pool, sanitizing and balancing are equally important.

Total Alkalinity

In simple terms, total alkalinity refers to how alkaline is the water. But you can't fully know the importance of total alkalinity without referring to pH, because the two go hand-in-hand. High alkaline water leads to high pH. Low alkaline water leads to low pH. For now, just remember that the average swimming pool should have an alkalinity reading of 100 ppm. (parts per million)

pH

Keeping your pH levels within the proper range is not only important for swimmer comfort, it's also important for keeping your equipment and pool finish in good condition. pH refers to the acidity or baseness of your pool water. All you need to remember is that a proper pH level is around 7.4 to 7.6 on a pH test kit's numeric scale. Low pH readings mean your chlorine will dissipate a lot quicker. High pH levels make chlorine inactive. And that means the money you're spending on chlorine is a waste.

Calcium Hardness

Anyone who's ever washed their hair in hard water knows that hard water doesn't do much for getting up a good lather. But in your pool, just the right amount of calcium is essential. Too little and your plaster can erode. Too much and your water could become cloudy, scale could form and stains might start. 200 to 400 ppm is the general range for calcium hardness, while 300 ppm is ideal for the average pool.

Stabilizer

Stabilizer is to chlorine like your home's insulation is to keeping in hot or cold air - it helps retain your chlorine longer just as insulation helps retain heat or air conditioning. Stabilizer is even added to some chlorine compounds to protect them from the breakdown effects of sunlight. When your stabilizer level is low, you'll use a lot more chlorine. When it's high, you may need to dilute your pool water to bring it back into the 40 to 100 ppm ideal range.

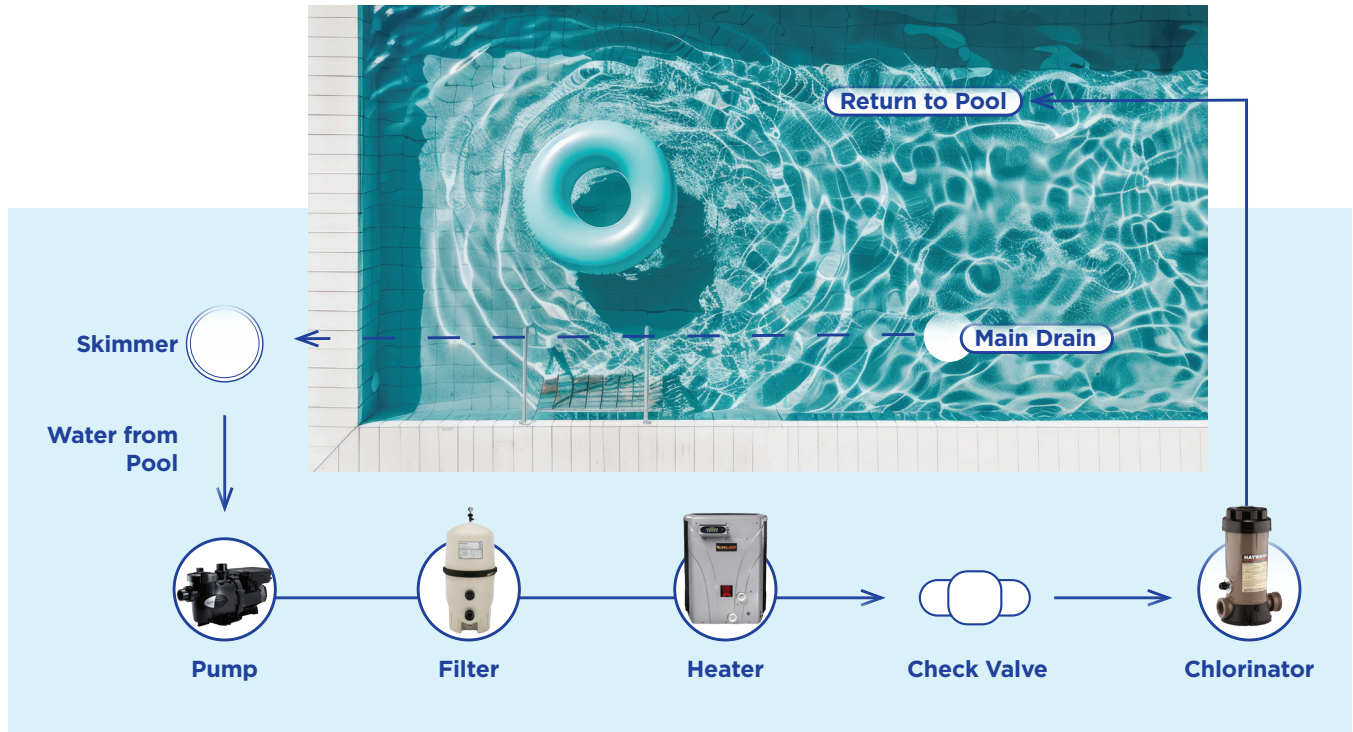
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

All water contains dissolved minerals. As pool water evaporates, minerals remain behind and become concentrated. The more concentrated these minerals become, the harder it is for chemical additives to work and stains can form. If you have 3000 ppm or more of total dissolved solids or TDS, you may need to drain some water and add fresh water.



HOW YOUR POOL *works*

It's pretty simple. Water flows from your pool via skimmer and main drain through equipment, filtering out debris, adding sanitizer or heat, and returning it to your sparkling pool.



Here are some easy-to-follow tips to keep your pool its healthiest

1. **Test your water chemistry weekly.** Take a water sample from the deep end of the pool, about 18" below the surface, with the pump running for one hour before the test. Bring it to Pinch A Penny for a free water test analysis weekly.
2. **Use a skimmer net** to remove floating leaves and other debris as needed. (As you're swimming or lounging poolside, notice if the water level is at the right height, about midway up the skimmer. If not, add water.)
3. **Brush the tiles** (sides) every one to two weeks to stop a ring from forming on the tile.
4. **Empty the skimmer and pump baskets** at least once a week.
5. **Run your pool pump** from 9 a.m. to dusk daily, unless pool water looks cloudy. Then run it continuously, and be sure to have your water tested at Pinch A Penny.
6. **Check your filter pressure weekly.** If it's 10 psi above your filter's normal level, clean your filter.
7. **Make sure you have enough chlorine** in either your automatic or floating chlorinator weekly.
8. **Add chemicals** to adjust pH, alkalinity, calcium hardness or stabilizer if required.
9. **Shock your pool once a week** with fresh Pinch A Penny Suncoast Gold liquid chlorine.
10. **Add a maintenance dose** of All In One Algaecide weekly.
11. **Add a sequestering agent.** Add a maintenance dose of Suncoast Super Metal Control once a month.

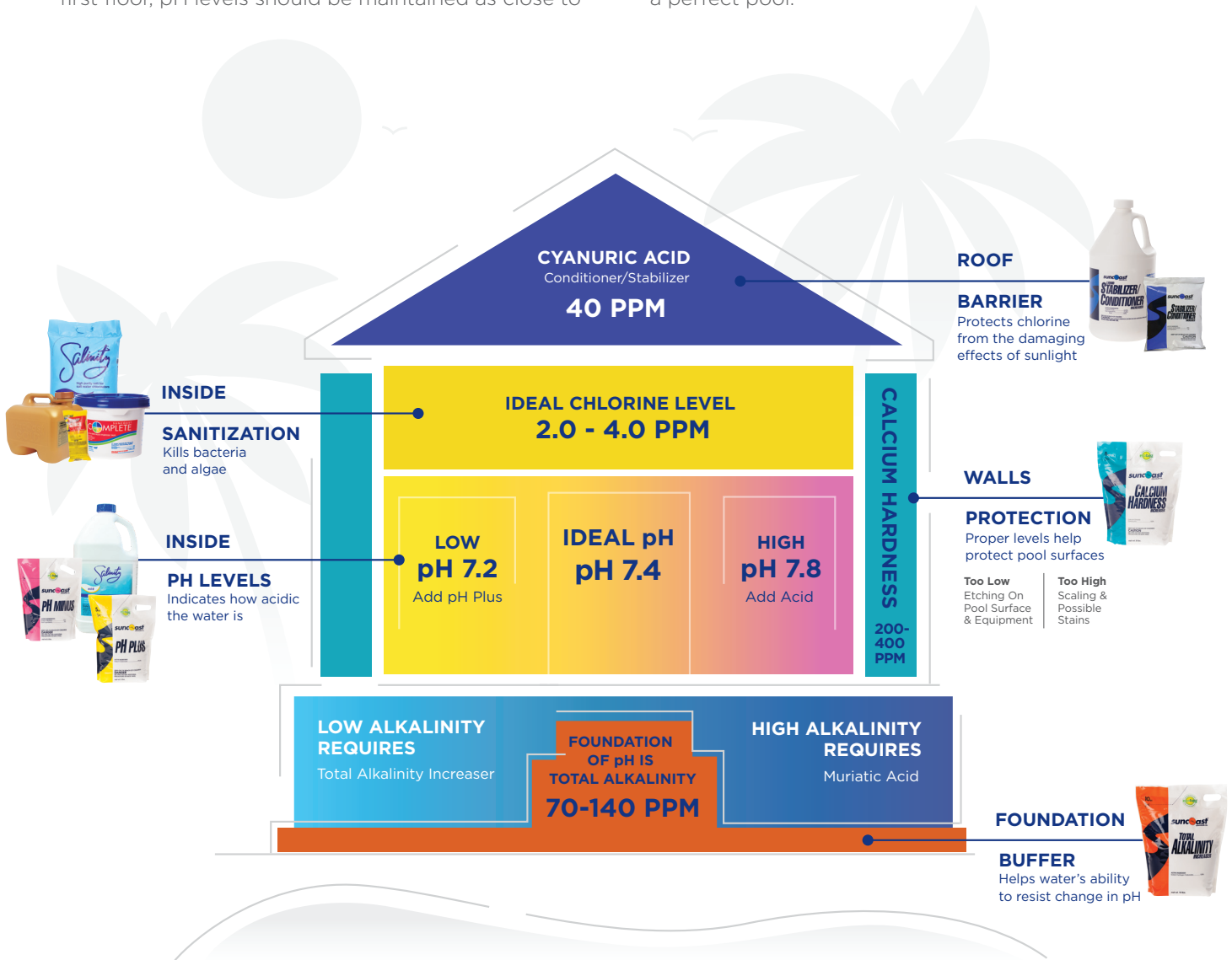
Welcome TO THE POOL HOUSE

Now that you know what's in your water, let's look at how you can build a perfectly balanced pool.

Our Pool House Philosophy

We call it the **Pool House**, and it's a simple diagram that clearly shows you the chemical structure of a healthy pool. Think of the various elements within your pool water like the different components you'd use to build a house. The foundation for crystal clear water begins with a total alkalinity of 70 to 140 ppm (ideal range varies based on pool finish). Moving up to the first floor, pH levels should be maintained as close to

the ideal of 7.4 as possible. A proper chlorine level of 2 to 4 ppm forms the second floor, and a stabilizer reading of 40 ppm tops everything off as the roof. Calcium hardness is the walls which keep the floors in place, and should be maintained at 200 to 400 ppm. So keep this structure in mind when testing your water - it's an easy way to clearly picture the components of a perfect pool.



THE *clear* CHOICE: CHLORINE

“Chlorine is the best way to keep your pool sanitary.”



While there are many types of chlorine, they all have several important things in common. First, chlorine is the most cost effective way to sanitize your pool. In fact, it's been the product of choice for more than 100 years. It's safe enough to sanitize drinking water, and powerful enough in the right concentrations to kill deadly bacteria, germs and viruses. Unlike chlorine alternatives, chlorine oxidizes while it sanitizes – helping to keep your pool crystal clear.

But why do I need chlorine?

Simple, because nothing purifies the water like chlorine. Wind, rain, dust and people introduce bacteria and algae into your pool, along with other contaminants. When enough chlorine is added to offset these unwanted introductions, your pool is said to have a “chlorine residual.” This is what sanitizes your pool continuously.

When it's time to shock your pool, go for the gold. Pinch A Penny's Suncoast Gold™ that is! Selling more liquid chlorine than any other pool company in the country, Pinch A Penny fills its chlorine jugs daily at each and every store, which means our chlorine is always fresher and fresher means stronger. When you use Suncoast Gold™, you can be certain that you are using the strongest most effective liquid chlorine available.

How do I test chlorine residual?

Ideal: 2.0 To 4.0 ppm

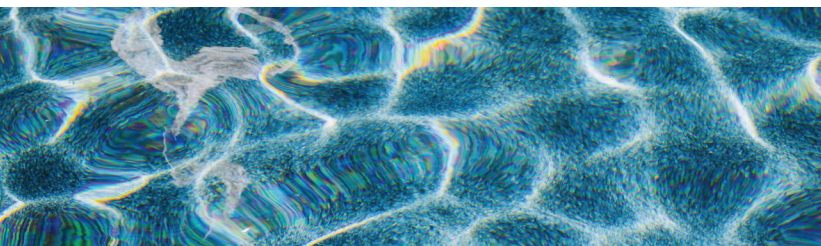
The same way you test for other pool components – with a test kit. The best chlorine test kits give you

readings for both total available chlorine and free available chlorine. Free available chlorine is the chlorine in your pool that still has sanitizing capabilities. Total available chlorine is the combination of both the free available chlorine and the chloramines. Chloramine is the chlorine that has worked to kill algae or bacteria and has now become ineffective. Chloramines in your pool cause strong chlorine odors, burning eyes when swimming, and prevent your free available chlorine from doing its job.

To get rid of chloramines and help keep them from ever becoming a problem, you should shock your pool on a regular basis. The optimal timing would be in the late afternoon or early evening, run your pool equipment for at least one hour after shocking. This also helps control algae growth at the same time. Simply put, shocking means that you add a large amount of chlorine, which is determined by your pool's size. To shock/oxidize your water quickly, just follow the ABC's of pool care on page 9 and you won't have to worry.

Readings under 2.0 – You'll probably experience an algae bloom and grow some bacteria as well.

Readings over 4.0 – You're spending more than you should be on chlorine and you could even cause pool stains.



PRO *Tip*

In short, remember you must maintain a free available chlorine residual reading of 2 to 4 ppm to keep your pool sanitized.

Is one type of chlorine better than another?

Each chlorine compound is designed for a specific purpose. Some can be useful for more than one application, while others have a very specific purpose. Each type has its own features and benefits.

There are two basic kinds, stabilized and unstabilized. Stabilizer helps chlorine last longer in your pool. So why would you use anything else but stabilized chlorine? Simple, stabilized chlorine is the best for daily sanitizing, while unstabilized is best for shocking your pool each week - or giving it a large dose of chlorine to sanitize the water quickly. Even though the chlorine readings will be high for about 24 hours after your recommended weekly shocking, because you use an unstabilized form of chlorine, it will be okay to dive into the pool after 24 hours.

The most important thing to remember is that chlorine is the best way to sanitize your pool. Stabilized chlorine

lasts longer, and is the best for daily chlorination. Unstabilized chlorine is the best for shocking your pool weekly, because it provides a quick, high chlorine concentration that dissipates within about 24 hours.

When adding an algaecide to a pool, you should always add the algaecide during the daylight hours.

Get Back to Basics

To Maintain A Perfectly Balanced Pool!

MAINTAINING YOUR BALANCED POOL IS *easy* AS

A



SANITIZE

Maintain your pool daily with Suncoast Stabilized Chlorine Tablets or Salinity Pool Salt for salt-chlorinated pools.

B



SHOCK

Shock your pool once a week with Suncoast Gold™ Liquid Shock or Super Shock.

C



PREVENT ALGAE

24 hours after shocking, add a dose of Suncoast All In One Algaecide or Salinity Multi-Purpose Algaecide.

PINCH A PENNY HAS ALL *Types* OF CHLORINE FOR ALL TYPES OF POOLS

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Stabilized Chlorine</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">The best & strongest types of chlorine available for daily chlorination</p>		
<p>Large 3” Stabilized Chlorinating Tablets</p>	<p>This is the most common kind used in the pool industry. It's great for daily chlorination when used in standard automatic chlorinators and floating chlorinators, and provides the highest strength of available chlorine possible.</p>	
<p>Chlorine Cartridge</p>	<p>Floating chlorine cartridges containing 1” tablets are completely disposable once the chlorine is used up to maintain proper free available chlorine levels for keeping your pool healthy.</p>	
<p>Granular Pool Chlorinator</p>	<p>Granular Chlorinator is the freshest available! That means it dissolves correctly and maintains the proper free chlorine levels to keep your pool its healthiest. Super Concentrated, residue free and fast dissolving granular. Guaranteed 99.5% pure, provides 55% available stabilized chlorine.</p>	
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Unstabilized chlorine</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Our freshest & strongest chlorine for weekly shocking</p>		
<p>Liquid Chlorine</p>	<p>It's the most popular, least expensive, and most effective type of unstabilized chlorine. We offer the freshest and strongest liquid chlorine in refillable, 2.5 gallon containers. It's the best for shocking, and helpful with algae control.</p>	
<p>Super Shock 4 Way Granular Chlorinating Shock</p>	<p>Super powerful calcium hypochlorite shock. Fast dissolving formula kills bacteria, controls algae, destroys organic contaminants and restores clarity.</p>	

What's the story on automatic chlorinators?

Automatic chlorinators are not only an ideal way to deliver just the right amount of chlorine to keep your water clear, but they save you time as well. Because automatic chlorinators can be adjusted to give out the exact amount of chlorine needed on a daily basis and can hold a weeks worth of chlorine, you can count on them to keep your pool's health in check around the clock.

There are three basic types of automatic chlorinators – floating, off-line erosion and in-line erosion. Here's a quick look at each:

Floating Chlorinators

As the name implies, float on the surface of the water which slowly dissolves the chlorine inside. This is the simplest and least expensive type.



Off-line Erosion Chlorinators

Tap into the return lines and deliver just the right amount of chlorine from chlorine tablets inside.

In-line Erosion Chlorinators

Tanks or cylinders that are plumbed directly into your pool's return lines. Water flowing through the tank or cylinder slowly dissolves the chlorine tablets.



CHLORINE GENERATORS

Salt Systems

Chlorine generators (sometimes called salt chlorine generators), produce chlorine from a mixture of salt and water.

The in-line chlorine generator system produces chlorine directly into the pool from salt added to the pool water. The cell has a number of metal plates that are electrically charged by a power supply. Depending on the unit and manufacturer, you will maintain a salt level of anywhere between 3000-6000 parts per million in the water for the in-line system to work properly. While this may seem like a high salt content, your pool won't be like the ocean. By comparison, typical sea water has a salt level of 35,000 ppm.



Hayward AquaRite S3



Jandy TruClear



Pentair Intellichlor Plus30

Gaht POOLS



While the phrase “saltwater pools” may bring to mind sand, waves and jellyfish, in reality, this alternative to standard chlorinated pools isn’t really like the beach at all. The water in the ocean has a salt content of about 35,000 ppm, while the water in a saltwater pool has a far lower concentration of salt at around 3,000 – 6,000 ppm. The water in a saltwater pool is actually more like a saline solution, which contains about 6,000 ppm. This means that if your pool is properly maintained, it shouldn’t taste or smell salty at all. Saltwater pools are not chlorine-free pools. The saltwater system is actually just an alternative method of chlorinating a pool, making your own chlorine daily.

Salt pool myths: Take them with a grain of salt

The most common myth regarding salt pools is that they are sanitized by salt and a better choice, if you have sensitivities or allergies to chlorine. Salt pools are, in fact, sanitized using chlorine. A salt-chlorine generator separates the chlorine and sodium molecules in salt and reintroduces them into the pool water. It is the chlorine that sanitizes your pool!

Another misconception is that salt pools do not require other chemicals. This is completely false and not using other chemicals could damage your pool or be potentially harmful. There is no magic inside a salt-chlorine generator that balances pool water. These parameters should be checked and balanced regularly.

Additionally, salt pools need to be shocked on a regular basis and salt-chlorine generators typically do not have the ability to effectively shock your pool. All pools, no matter what the sanitizer, need to be shocked regularly – preferably once per week during warm weather. Organic contaminants will build up in every pool and can only be eliminated by shocking. For chlorinated pools, this is usually done with Liquid Chlorine/Bleach. A proper super-chlorination/shock requires elevating the available chlorine level to approximately 10.0 ppm above the normal level of approximately 2.0 ppm. Even though some salt-chlorine generators feature an

option to shock, they typically cannot produce enough chlorine to achieve an available chlorine level of 12.0 ppm. Maintaining a healthy salt pool still requires the purchase of regular shock treatments.

The last myth is that salt pools save money. Salt-chlorinated pools may actually cost more to maintain than pools chlorinated with tablets. You must factor in the cost of the salt-chlorine generator, ongoing salt purchases and replacement of the salt cell every five years on average. Although there may not be monetary advantages to having a salt pool, some have said the maintenance is easier and that the water feels “softer”.

Converting a standard pool to a saltwater pool



Specially formulated for salt pools

If you already have a pool, you can convert your standard pool to a salt pool. Two components will be added to your existing system, a salt cell and a control unit. The salt cell is attached to the pipes between your filter and water outlet and the control unit allows you to monitor the salt cell. The price for a salt system will vary based on features and brands. Check with your local Pinch A Penny expert for the latest products and pricing.

PRO Tip

It is critical that a salt pool still maintain proper pH, Total Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and Stabilizer levels.

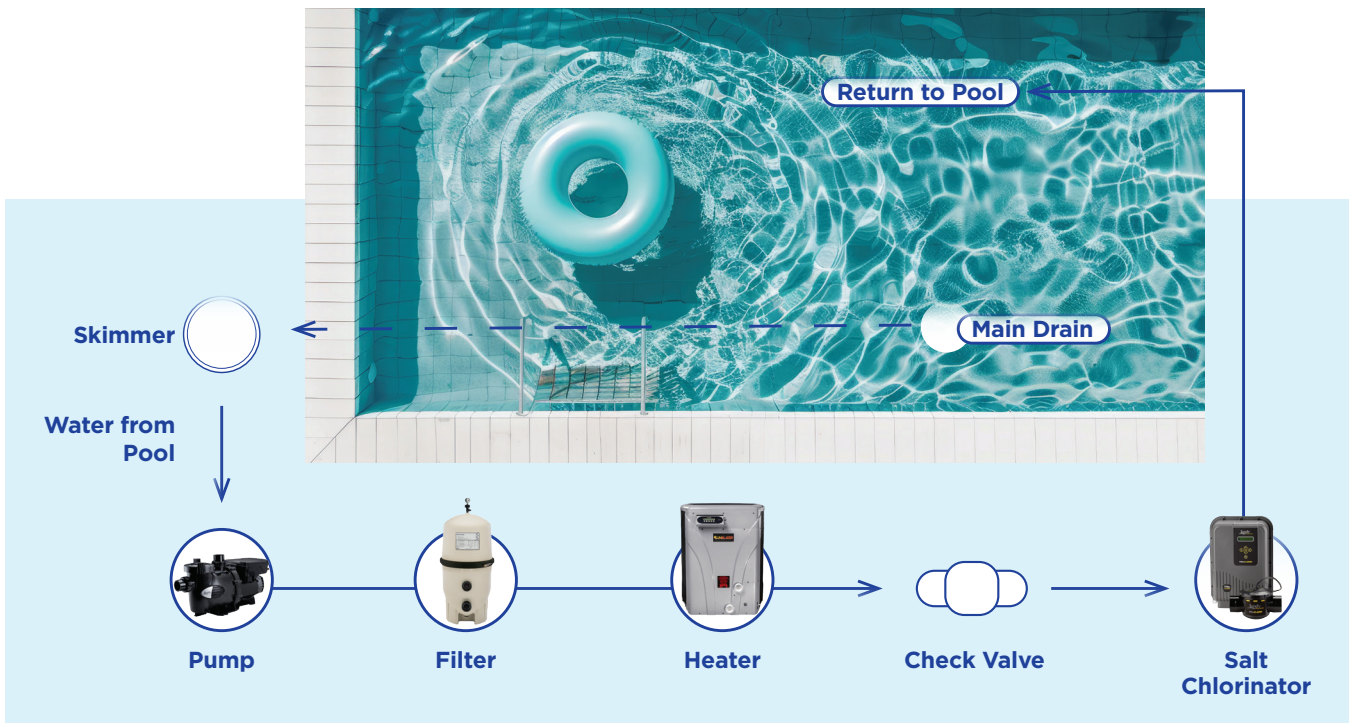
How do Salt Systems work?

Essentially, a saltwater pool works the same way as any other pool. There are still filters, pumps and drains. However, instead of adding chlorine tablets to your pool, the “salt-chlorine generator” actually creates the chlorine and adds it to the pool automatically. Salt is made up of two elements, chlorine and sodium, thus its scientific name - sodium chloride. Therefore, salt already has chlorine in it naturally. A salt-chlorine generator uses

the simple process of electrolysis in combination with the water to separate the chlorine and sodium molecules and then reintroduces them into the pool as liquid chlorine. Keep in mind that the salt-chlorine generator does not inherently monitor the chlorine levels unless it is equipped with additional chemical control and monitoring equipment.

PRO Tip

To get a salt reading of 3000 ppm, 250 lbs of salt should be added for every 10,000 gallons of pool water



How to increase salt content in your pool

DESIRED INCREASE IN PPM	Gallons						
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000	50,000
100	0.8 lbs.	4.2 lbs.	8 lbs.	13 lbs.	17 lbs.	21 lbs.	42 lbs.
250	2 lbs.	10 lbs.	21 lbs.	31 lbs.	42 lbs.	52 lbs.	104 lbs.
500	4 lbs.	21 lbs.	42 lbs.	62 lbs.	83 lbs.	104 lbs.	208 lbs.
1000	8 lbs.	42 lbs.	83 lbs.	125 lbs.	167 lbs.	208 lbs.	417 lbs.
3000	25 lbs.	125 lbs.	250 lbs.	375 lbs.	500 lbs.	750 lbs.	1500 lbs.
6000	50 lbs.	250 lbs.	500 lbs.	750 lbs.	1000 lbs.	1250 lbs.	2500 lbs.

Please check with your specific manufacturer's recommendations and adjust the level to meet their specifications.



SPECIALLY FORMULATED FOR SALT POOLS



1 Qt. Super Phosphate Remover

Salinity Super Phosphate Remover is a highly concentrated solution formulated to eliminate phosphates from your swimming pool.



1 Qt. Cell Cleaner

This acid-based product was formulated to remove calcium build-up which can inhibit the performance of salt generator cells. The formula is pre-mixed and ready to use.



1 Qt. Phosphate Remover

This concentrated formula helps eliminate algae's primary nutrient, phosphate. If you're experiencing a recurring algae bloom not controlled by algacide and your salt-chlorine generator, this may be your solution.



1 Qt. Natural Clarifier

This superior clarifier clears up cloudy water, helps prevent stains and eliminates oil and scum build-up on salt generator cells. Your salt system will run cleaner, longer and perform better.



1 Qt. Multi-Purpose Algacide

This product kills all types of algae including mustard, green and black. It also clears the water without foaming or requiring the closing of your pool.



1 Qt. Stain Control

Salinity Stain Control helps keep metals and minerals in solution to help prevent scaling of the salt generator cells and your pool.



40 Lbs. Salinity Premium Salt Blend

The purest salt available for swimming pool and spa chlorine generators. This means the purity and crystal size are designed to produce the fastest dissolve rate in swimming pools and spas with chlorine generators.



A properly balanced salt water pool shouldn't smell or taste salty at all.

Passing THE WATER TEST WITH FLYING COLORS

All this talk of pH and ppm seems confusing until you apply it to a water test, which is a simple way to determine the various characteristics of your pool water. That's where it all comes together.

Routine water testing is essential to ensuring a safe, comfortable swimming environment, preventing algae and bacteria growth, and preserving the longevity of pool finishes and equipment.

Two ways to test your water weekly

To test your water, you can either test and diagnose your pool water at home using a test kit and the Pinch A Penny Mobile App or with our Free in-store 7-point water test.

1. Use a kit or the Pinch App at home

There are many types of test kits available, including test strips. For the most accurate assessment of your pool water, you should use (at the very minimum) a test kit that allows you to test for chlorine, pH and total alkalinity. Test kits are also available to test calcium hardness, stabilizer, and lots of other things. Your Pinch A Penny expert can help you select the test kit that's right for you, to help you keep track of your pool's health in between your free water analyses at Pinch A Penny.



Use the Pinch A Penny App

Step 1: In order to test at home with the Pinch A Penny Mobile App, you will need either a Porpoise Pro or Pool Style test strip. These can be easily found at your local Pinch A Penny either in-store or Online.

Step 2: Simply dip your test strip into the water according to the manufacturer's instructions. From there, you can simply add a new water test from your app. This will give you the option to do a photo water test with automatic results.

3. Take a photo of your strip by following the app's instructions. It will automatically generate not just the

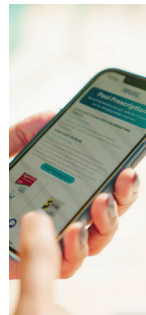


results of your water test, but also a prescription of products best for your pool. Then, just visit the store to pick up what you need.

Test & Solve Your Pool Problems in Minutes!



Test with Porpoise & Pool Style 5-Way Test Kit or Strips



Get a Water Balance Prescription



View Your At-Home or In-Store Water Test Results



Easily Contact Your Local Pinch A Penny

2. Test for FREE at your local store

Rather let the pool pros handle your water testing? Just bring a sample to your local Pinch at any time for a FREE water test. Our trained associates will not just do the work for you, but we can recommend the best products to combat any stubborn pool issues.

The proper way to get a water sample

Now that you know what a test kit is, here's how to use it to your advantage.

1. Try to perform your water test at the same time of the day and before you add any chemicals. During summer months, a test every day can help avoid the problems associated with heavy pool use or rain.
2. To get the best results, after the pump has been running for at least one hour, take a water sample from the deep end of your pool, submerging your collection vessel upside down about 18" below the surface. Bring it to Pinch A Penny for a free water test analysis weekly.





Free in-store 7-point water test

Even though you can test your water at home, you can follow up your own readings with a free water analysis at Pinch A Penny every week or two. Using Pinch A Penny's 7-point free water test program, our experts can help spot a potential problem a home test kit can miss. And because we keep a history of your pool's condition each time we test it, we get to know your pool better each time you bring us a sample.



7-Point Water Test Includes:

- Chlorine
- Calcium Hardness
- pH
- Stabilizer
- Acid/Base Demand
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Total Alkalinity

How to know just how much fun your pool holds

Water testing and correcting potential problems can't be accurately done if you don't know how much water your pool holds. Plus, you can end up spending a lot more in chemical treatments in the long run. Here's a simple method for measuring the number of gallons in your pool. Once you have this figure, it's important to bring it in with you when you have your water tested.

First of all, you need to determine your average depth. The simplest method is to tie a string that's been marked off in feet to a weighted object and measure the deep end, then the shallow end. Add these two

numbers together and divide by two to get your average depth. Use your average depth number in the following calculations to determine your pool's capacity:

For Rectangular Pools

Length x width x average depth x 7.5 = Total gallons. Example: A pool that's 30 feet in length, 15 feet wide and has an average depth of 5 feet holds 16,875 gallons.

$$\leftarrow \text{FEET} \rightarrow \times \text{FEET} \times \text{AVG. FEET} \times 7.5$$

For Circular Pools

Diameter x diameter x average depth x 5.9 = Total gallons. Example: An 18-foot round pool with an average depth of 5 feet holds 9,558 gallons.

$$\text{FEET} \times \text{FEET} \times \text{AVG. FEET} \times 5.9$$

For Oval Pools

Long diameter x short diameter x average depth x 5.9 = Total gallons. Example: If the long diameter is 30 feet, the short diameter is 15 feet and the average depth is 6 feet, the pool holds 15,930 gallons.

$$\leftarrow \text{FEET} \rightarrow \times \text{FEET} \times \text{AVG. FEET} \times 5.9$$

For Irregular-Shaped Pools

It's best to consult the pool builder or ask your Pinch A Penny expert for assistance.



Store your test kit in a cool, dark place and replace the reagents annually. Date the bottles when you buy the kit and be sure to bring them into Pinch A Penny after a year for replacement.

HOW TO *clean* YOUR POOL

Tips for cleaning your pool

It's easy to establish a cleaning routine that you can do while you're enjoying a cool dip. First, you'll need a pool skimmer, pumice stone or tile brush, pool wall brush, vacuum head and hose, and telescopic pole. Then follow these simple steps, and your pool will reward your efforts with debris-free swimming.



1. Skim the surface for floating leaves and debris. Once they sink, they're a lot harder to remove and may also stain the pool surfaces.

2. Scrub Scale Away along the water line. A pumice stone or tile brush should be used for tiled areas. If using a pumice stone, be sure to keep it wet to avoid scratching your tile.



3. Empty your skimmer and pump baskets.

4. Manually vacuum your pool, unless you have an automatic pool cleaner, you need to

First, attach the vacuum head to a telescopic pole and the hose to the vacuum head. Slowly lower it into the pool. When it reaches the bottom, continue to feed the hose into the pool until all the air has been purged from the hose. If you connect the hose to your pump with air still in it, it can burn out your swimming pool pump.

Once all the air has been removed from the hose, pass the end of the hose through the skimmer door and plug it into the skimmer port. Also, make sure

the skimmer is the only open line to the pump. Vacuum the pool like you would vacuum your carpet, starting at the shallow end and working your way into the deep end with long, slow, sweeping strokes.

5. Brush the pool's sides and floor. Simply take a nylon or poly-bristle brush and move dirt toward the drain. Start on the walls at the shallow end, working your way to the deep end with long, slow, sweeping strokes.

6. Wash all your pool cleaning tools with fresh water and store them out of the sun. The sun's rays and the chemicals in the pool water can make them deteriorate a lot quicker.

7. Backwash or clean your filter after sweeping and vacuuming. Your Pinch A Penny expert can tell you just how to maintain your particular pump and filter.

8. Repeat Step #3.

9. Add water if your water level is low, but don't forget that you've got water running and be careful not to overflow your pool.

Other helpful cleaning aids



If you have a pool that's near trees, we don't need to tell you about leaf debris. Try a Leaf Vacuum, which is a large mesh bag on a plastic base with wheels that connects to a garden hose.

Automatic pool cleaners are also a time and work saver. Many models eliminate up to 90% of manual cleaning. Pinch A Penny has the largest selection of both in-ground pool and above-ground pool automatic cleaners to fit all pool care needs. Again, ask your Pinch A Penny expert for the style and type that's best for your pool.

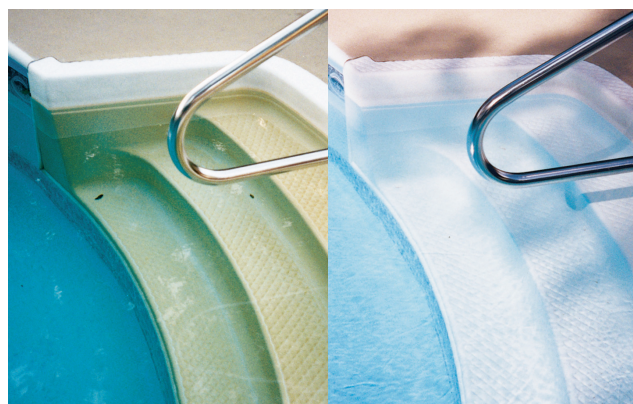
WIN THE BATTLE AGAINST POOL *stains*

Only Pinch A Penny can help you spot the right stain removal solution

Several conditions can lead to pool staining, like acidic water, alkaline water, leaves, algae or metal objects left in the pool. But it's often difficult to pinpoint the cause of the stain, which can be a combination of several factors.

That's why you need to trust your Pinch A Penny expert to help you pinpoint the cause, then offer a solution. Pinch A Penny has the products you need to clean up even the ugliest looking stains.

With our exclusive, proven stain treatment program, we can not only help you pinpoint the cause of most stains, but help you treat them effectively. Just remember, stains in your pool are like stains on clothing. With the right advice and right product, you can get just about anything out.



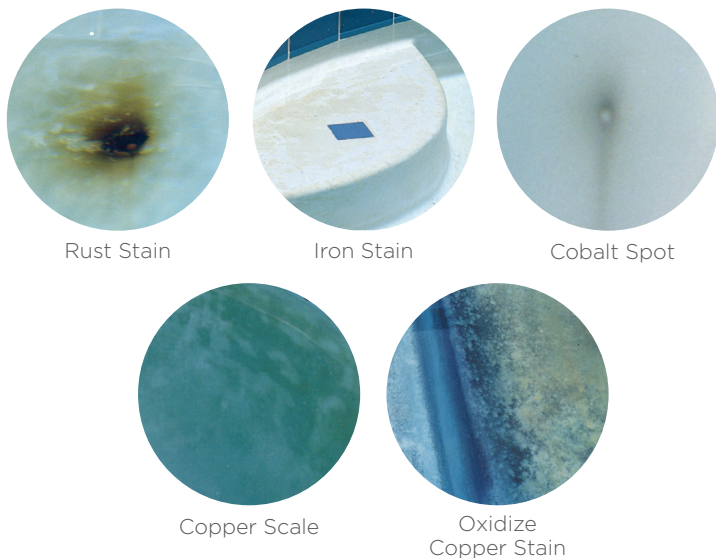
Before

After

Pinch A Penny's Stain Identification Kit takes the guesswork out of stain removal

First, test your water and make sure your pool is balanced to the stain parameters, then test the stain using our Stain Identification Kit. With this first step, you'll know exactly which stain removal product will work best on your particular stain—which is just the kind of help you'd expect from the pool care experts at Pinch A Penny.

Once you pinpoint the right treatment, you can then proceed with the cleanup using proven Suncoast products like Super Metal Control, Ultimate Metal Control, Stop Stains or Iron & Cobalt Stain Remover. All of these treatments are effective and a lot more cost efficient than draining and acid washing your pool.



Rust Stain

Iron Stain

Cobalt Spot

Copper Scale

Oxidize Copper Stain

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

An at-a-glance look at how to fix what ails your pool

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Water is Cloudy, Smoky Or Hazy	Poor circulation or filtration	Back-wash and clean filter. Clean skimmer baskets and pump strainer basket. Filter may need chemical cleaning.
	Improper water balance	Test pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness. Adjust if necessary.
	Excess organic waste	Shock with 1 gallon liquid chlorine for every 10,000 gallons of pool water
	High total alkalinity	Add Salinity Acid or Suncoast pH Minus
	Low sanitizer level	Add chlorine to bring it to its proper range
Water Is Green	Green algae growth, a free-floating variety which imparts a cloudy green color to the water. It's easy to correct if treated early	Shock pool and add Suncoast Yellow Blast, Stop Green, Super Green Algaecide or All In One Algaecide
	Low total alkalinity	Add Suncoast Total Alkalinity Increaser
Yellow Or Green Dust On Floor And Walls	Mustard algae	Shock pool and add Suncoast Yellow Blast
Black Spots On Floor And Walls	Black algae, a very resistant, hard-to-kill variety which appears as small, black dots or blotches that are pin-head to quarter-sized on the walls and bottom of the pool.	Suncoast Super Black Algaecide is the finest product on the market for the treatment of black algae. If Suncoast Metal Control is used in conjunction with Suncoast Super Black Algaecide , even the most severe problems can be eliminated faster. You need to brush the spots to remove them after chemical treatment.
Pink Slime	Pink Slime is a form of bacteria with a pinkish center surrounded by a flat gelatinous mass. This bacteria can usually be tracked to some swimmer who has recently visited a coastal area where this type of growth is common.	Double shock the pool with 2 gallons of liquid chlorine per 10,000 gallons of pool water. After 48 hours, use Suncoast All In One Algaecide at twice the recommended rate for visible algae.

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

An at-a-glance look at how to fix what ails your pool

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Water is Sudsy	Overuse of some types of algaecides	Discontinue use of current algaecide and switch to a high-quality, non-foaming one such as Suncoast All In One Algaecide . You may want to replace some of the pool water with fresh water and/or use Suncoast Stop Foam
Water Burns Eyes	Low or high pH	Check pH and adjust to 7.4 - 7.6 range
	Excessive organic waste	Shock with 1 gallon liquid chlorine for every 10,000 gallons of pool water
	Too much sanitizer	Check automatic chlorinator setting
Blonde Hair Turns Green	Usually occurs in natural blondes and due to the amount of time they spend in the water. Also, certain forms of copper at concentrations of 1 or 2 ppm, like those found in some algaecides, can turn hair green.	If the problem is due to reaction with a copper, consider a special shampoo. Shampoos, like those containing aloe vera or anti-chlorine shampoos, are available to neutralize the chlorine reaction. If copper is your problem, add a sequestering agent to disable the copper minerals in water.



chart YOUR PROGRESS

At the back of this publication are handy tables that clearly define just how much of a corrective chemical you need to add for a particular problem. Refer to them for the proper amount of chemicals to add for your pool size. Or better yet, bring a sample to Pinch A Penny. We'll explain exactly what's wrong, if anything, and how to fix it.

Keeping total alkalinity in check

Ideal: 70 to 140 ppm

(Ideal range varies based on pool surface type)

To lower total alkalinity, add Salinity acid or Suncoast pH Minus to the deep end of the pool. To raise it, add Suncoast Total Alkalinity Increaser. Be sure to check your pH levels before and after raising or lowering the total alkalinity. You may need to adjust your pH levels again within two to three days of correcting a high or low total alkalinity.

Are pH readings a little wacky?

Ideal: 7.4 to 7.6

To raise your pH level, add Suncoast pH Plus to your pool. To lower pH, you can use either muriatic acid or Suncoast pH Minus. Remember to never adjust pH unless your total alkalinity is already in its ideal range. Most of the time, a wacky pH reading is due to wacky total alkalinity. When the alkalinity is adjusted to its proper range, the pH usually fixes itself within two to three days.

Be a softy for calcium hardness

Ideal: 200 to 400 ppm

To increase calcium content, add Suncoast Calcium Hardness. To decrease it, drain some water and then add fresh water to your pool. If you maintain a high calcium hardness level, you may need to add a weekly dose of Suncoast Metal Control to help reduce the chances of getting stains and scale.

Be a stabilizing influence

Ideal: 40 ppm

Keep in mind that stabilizer helps your chlorine work more effectively, which saves you money in the long run. Low stabilizer readings can be elevated by adding Suncoast Stabilizer. High stabilizer readings can be lowered by adding fresh water to your pool. Also, if you use a chlorine alternative to sanitize your pool, you may not need stabilizer at all.

Diluting a problem with total dissolved solids

Ideal: under 3,000 ppm

This one's easy. Just add fresh water to your pool should your total dissolved solids readings exceed 3,000 ppm. Be sure to consult your Pinch A Penny expert first, because some pools operate just fine with high total dissolved solids.

Water Balance Guidelines						
(Please consult with your builder for specific ranges)						
POOL SURFACE/PPM	Marcite	Vinyl	Fiberglass	Painted	Tile	Exposed Aggregate
Total Chlorine/Bromine	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0
Free Chlorine	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0	2.0-4.0
Combined Chlorine	0	0	0	0	0	0
pH	7.4-7.6	7.4-7.6	7.4-7.6	7.4-7.6	7.4-7.6	7.4-7.6
Total Alkalinity	80-120	120-140	70-100	80-120	80-120	80-120
Calcium Hardness	250-400	200-300	250-400	250-400	200-400	200-400
Total Dissolved Solids	300-3000	300-3000	300-3000	300-3000	300-3000	300-3000
Iron	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stabilizer	40	40	40	40	40	40
Phosphate (ppb)	0-200	0-200	0-200	0-200	0-200	0-200

superior PRODUCTS FOR YOUR POOL CARE NEEDS!

The Suncoast family of products, exclusive to Pinch A Penny

Sanitizing Chemicals

Our wide variety of chlorine and bromine products are proven to perform beautifully for daily sanitizing or weekly shocking. Suncoast sanitizers are the best your money can buy.



Balancing Chemicals

Suncoast offers just the right products to balance your pH, total alkalinity, calcium hardness, and stabilizer. Keep your pool in perfect balance with Suncoast.

Algaecides

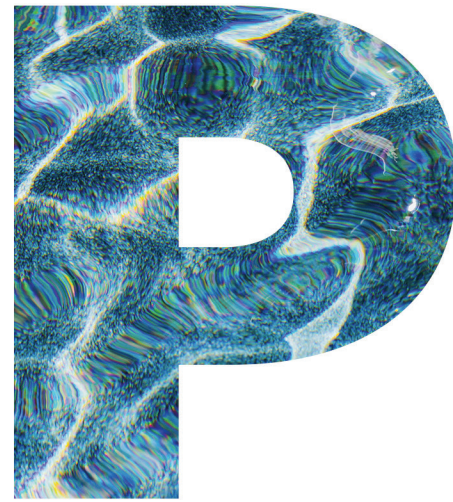
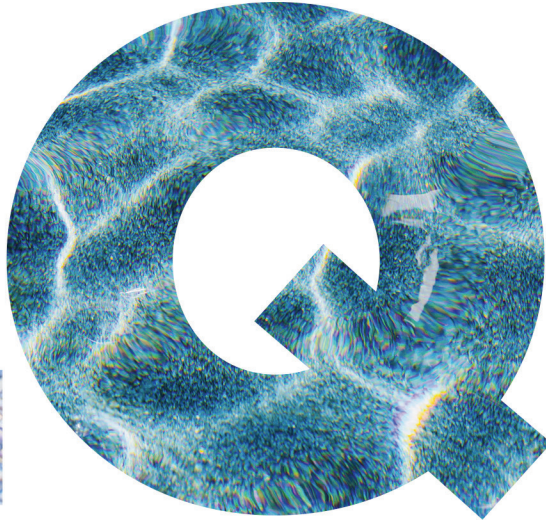
From our All In One Algaecide, which is perfect for removing and preventing all types of algae, to our tough Super Green and Super Black, Suncoast can help you tackle algae and keep these hearty little plants from thriving in your pool.



Stain Fighters

Stains can make even the clearest pool look a little dirty. Trust our complete line of stain fighters to help remove any pool stain, and help keep it from coming back.

Be sure to ask your **Pinch A Penny expert** about our other high quality specialty chemicals, including **Suncoast's** full line of spa chemicals, filter cleaners, tile cleaners, oil & scum removers, clarifiers and flocculants.



FOR ALL OF YOUR EQUIPMENT NEEDS

From pumps to filters, heaters and cleaners, we have all the equipment to keep your pool running smoothly and looking amazing.

The following section gives you everything you need to know about pool equipment and how to keep it performing at its best.

PUMP IT *up*



The life-support system of any pool is the pump and filter. In some cases, this also includes a pool heater, automatic cleaner or automatic chlorinator. Proper preventive maintenance will keep them performing for years to come.

The basic pump types

Self-Priming Pumps available with dual speed for energy efficiency

These have hair and lint strainers that act as reservoirs to help prime the pump. Self-priming pumps are generally used for in-ground pools, but are sometimes used in above-ground pools as well. With these types of pumps, it's important to keep the hair and lint strainers clean.

Variable Speed Pumps for the best efficiency

Variable speed pumps are the most efficient pumps at any speed that can save you up to 90% on energy costs over a single-speed pump. A variable speed pump matches pump flow to a pool's needs, versus running at full power 100% of the time and is suitable for both new construction and the aftermarket.

Variable Speed Pumps with SVRS for additional safety

Variable Speed pumps can also combine variable drive technology, on-board digital intelligence, and feature a built-in Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS) that detects drain blockage and automatically shuts the pump off. SVRS models comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Safety Act.

Save up to \$* a month on your electric bill with an energy saving Variable Speed Pump!

Variable-speed pumps can run at lower speeds yet maintain the same level of cleaning/sanitation because they run for longer periods of time. Lower speeds mean reduced energy consumption and even less noise.

Tips for keeping it pumping

Ventilation and protection from the weather is crucial with any type of pump. Consider a motor cover to provide shelter and still allow for good ventilation. The cooler the pump runs and the more protection you give it from chemicals and the elements, the longer it will last. Be sure to keep all strainer baskets clean and securely in place. Also, check for water leaks between the pump housing and motor. A leak may indicate a bad shaft seal, which can be replaced by your Pinch A Penny expert.

How long should I run my pump?

That depends on several factors, including the size of your pool, weather conditions, the amount of activity in your pool, the time of year, and what kind of equipment you have. In most situations, however, the pump should run from around 9:00 am until dusk. If you are correcting algae, clarity, or circulation problems, ask us what we recommend to achieve the best results for your situation.

Flooded Suction Pumps & Booster Pumps

Flooded suction pumps can only be used with above-ground pools, because they need to be located beneath a pool's water level. They typically look like self-priming pumps, but are generally slightly smaller. Booster pumps are used in conjunction with self-priming pumps when increased pressure or flow is needed, as with certain types of automatic pool cleaners. Booster pumps are not self-priming, so they should not be used without the water supply coming from the primary pump.



*Monthly savings based on using the Pentair pool pump savings calculator using an IntelliFlo VSF vs. 1.5 HP single speed pump for a 20,000 gallon pool with the pump running for 10 hours a day at 1,400 RPM's, at 12¢ kwh for 12 months.

fitter THROUGH SOME GREAT INFORMATION



Your filter is your last line of defense in trapping debris on a constant basis. That's why it's so important to use the right type and keep it operating as clean as possible.

Sand Filters

This is basically a big canister of sand that helps trap smaller dirt and debris as water is forced through it. There are two types of sand filters used for pools. The most common is the high-rate sand filter, which uses sand as a filter medium. The other is called a rapid-rate sand filter, which needs layers of rock and gravel as a support for a top layer of sand.



As water passes through the sand bed, dirt and debris are trapped by sand grains. Sand filters use what's known as No. 20-grade silica sand, which is capable of trapping teeny-weenie 25- to 30-micron sized particles. (A micron is one millionth of a meter). Most sand filters have lateral tubes in the bottom of the tank instead of a solid underdrain. When filling a sand filter with sand, fill the empty tank with water about 1/3 of the way up first. This will help absorb the shock of the sand going into the tank.



Cartridge Filters

Cartridge filters use replaceable paper or fabric-like pleated cartridges as their filter medium. Cartridges have a large surface volume to catch whatever the

water pushes through them, and can trap 10 to 14-micron sized particles. Depending on the style you choose, a cartridge filter may have one or more cartridges inside the tank.

Diatomaceous Earth (or DE) Filters

Diatomaceous Earth, which is composed of the skeletons of microscopic sea creatures, is the most effective, but also the most complex. DE filters remove the smallest particles (5 microns) of any filter.

DE filters work by forcing water through the diatomaceous earth, then through a grid and back to your pool. These upright cylinder tanks have long half-moon, rectangular-shaped grids or fingers. A spreader, which is connected to a collector or manifold, separates these grids and holds them in place. Water flows into the tank, passes through the diatomaceous earth, through the filter grids, into the manifold and back into the pool.

Because the diatomaceous earth powder performs the actual filtering in both vertical and spin filters, you should never run water through a DE filter without diatomaceous earth in it. This can permanently damage the grid.



PRO Tip Extend the life of your cartridge filter with **Suncoast Spray & Rinse**.



KEEPING *filters* CLEAN

First, you have to know when your filter needs cleaning. Take note of the pressure gauge on the filter. When it goes up to 10 pounds per square inch (PSI) above its normal operating level, it's usually a good time to clean your filter.

How to clean specific filter types

Sand Filters

Reverse the flow of water by turning your regulator valve at the top of the tank to backwash. The backwash cycle should last until water passing through the sight glass looks clean. Then turn the valve to the rinse position, and run this cycle for at least 30 seconds. When the filter is very dirty, it is good to repeat the process two or three times. Never turn the valve while the pump is running.

Cartridge Filters

Unlike sand or DE filters, cartridge filters cannot be backwashed, and cartridges must be removed for cleaning. But the good news is cartridge filters are a

breeze to clean. Simply remove the cartridge from the tank (with the pump off), take it out, hose it off, and use Pinch A Penny's Spray & Rinse. Spray and rinse it for about five to six minutes and put it back into the tank. We recommend keeping two cartridges so that you always have a clean one on hand while the other is soaking.

DE Filters

Clean your DE filter as you would a sand filter. But be sure to add new Diatomaceous Earth Powder after each backwashing. To do this, mix DE powder in a bucket of water until it has a milky consistency, then slowly pour it through the skimmer while the pump is running. At the beginning of each season, disassemble the filter completely and clean the grids with Suncoast Spray & Rinse.



WARM UP TO YEAR-ROUND *fun*



Hey, your pool is family fun central. So, why not enjoy it all year-round? It's easy to do with a pool heating system from Pinch A Penny. From heat pumps and gas heaters to solar panels and blankets, Pinch A Penny has all the equipment you need to keep the pool fun going and going and going. Best of all, only Pinch A Penny guarantees you the expert advice you need to choose the right type of pool heating system for your pool and your budget.

Pinch A Penny carries a wide variety of items you need to make the most of your pool including: pool heating systems, accessories, winter covers, solar covers, leaf nets and more.



Heat pumps and gas heaters: Hot sellers for lots of good reasons

Want to keep your pool warm and inviting every day of the year? You want a top quality heat pump or gas heating system from Pinch A Penny. Both are tops in energy efficiency and designed to provide constant, and comfortable water temperatures day in and day out.

PRO *Tip*

One BTU (British Thermal Unit) is capable of raising the temperature of one pound of water by one degree. So, the larger your pool, the greater the required output of BTU's per hour.

So, what's comfortable to you? Heating units are rated by units of measurement called BTU's. One BTU is capable of raising the temperature of one pound of water by one degree. So the larger your pool, the greater the required output in BTU's per hour. Most people find a pool water temperature between 78 and 82 degrees ideal, but you may like it cooler or warmer. That's where your Pinch A Penny expert comes in. Talk to him or her about your personal preferences, home design, and pool size and style for expert help in determining the proper heating system for you, starting with a free in-home pool heating analysis.



Heat Pumps & Heat/Cool Pumps

Heat pumps are an energy-efficient way to heat your pool because a heat pump essentially uses outside air to heat your pool. Heat/Cool pumps are great for heating your pool or cooling it down.



Gas Heaters

Gas fired heaters are one of the most popular methods for heating a swimming pool. They're ideal for heating a pool quickly regardless of the climate.

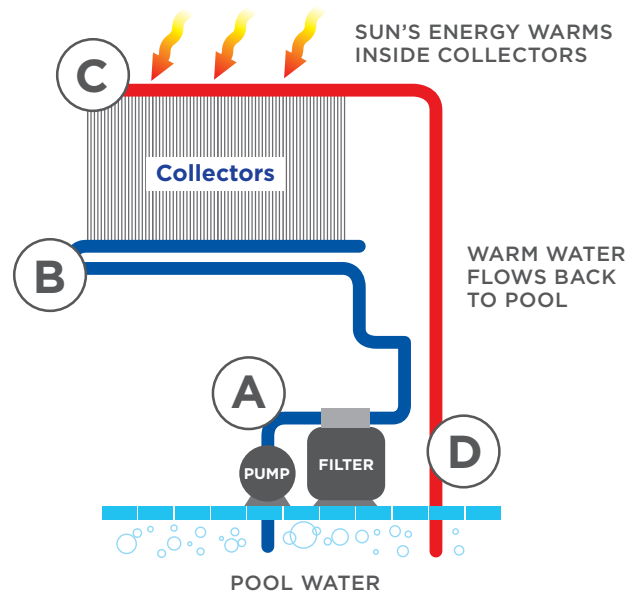
SOLAR HEAT: SUN POWER AT WORK



It's no surprise that the sun is a powerful source of heat. With a solar heating system, you can harness that power to keep your pool warmer and extend your swimming season. Naturally, a solar heating system is the most cost-effective pool heating system around because the power of the sun is free.

How Solar Pool Heating Works

- A.** Using your existing pool pump, pool water is directed through a series of valves to your solar collectors.
- B.** Pool water enters the solar collectors at the bottom and rises to the top through the individual tubes of the collector.
- C.** As the water rises through the collector it is heated by the sun's radiant energy.
- D.** The water is then returned to your pool to repeat the cycle until your pool has been warmed by the sun.



Once installed, a solar heating system works by drawing heat through a panel either on the roof or at a 45° angle near the pool. Tubing filled with pool water runs through the panel, which heats the water then returns it back to your pool. If properly installed with advice from Pinch A Penny heating experts, a solar heating system can be very easy to maintain.

And Pinch A Penny can also offer you solar blankets and pool covers in a huge variety for all pool sizes

to retain the warmth in your pool water overnight or during cool periods.

Solar power. Chances are, it's the perfect solution to warming up your pool - and swimming earlier in the Spring and later in the Fall. Ask your Pinch A Penny expert for details.



Winter Cover



Solar Blanket

Need Clarity On Cleaners?

PINCH
MAKES IT
EASY



ROBOTIC CLEANERS

- Runs independently
- Cleans large and small debris
- Scrubs tiles, walls, and some stairs
- Energy efficient



CORDLESS CLEANERS AVAILABLE



SUCTION CLEANERS

- Uses your pool pump's suction
- Small debris goes to your pool filter
- Cleans the bottom of pool
- Lowest Cost



PRESSURE CLEANERS

- Uses your pool pump's water pressure
- Debris goes into an attached filter bag
- May require a booster pump
- Low-maintenance



MAKE ANY POOL A *smart* POOL!

PRO *Tip*

Pinch A Penny will customize and install the automation package that works best with your equipment.



Pool Automation

Intelligent pool control from your smartphone or tablet lets you control your pool and spa equipment, lighting and more.

Connect Your Equipment Wirelessly

With a HUB and CONTROL CENTER From Nest to Google Home, automation is everywhere! A pool automation system allows you to connect your pool's equipment to one central hub via wifi and control center. The system's corresponding mobile app then allows you to control those features from your phone. Most automation systems can also connect to Echo or a similar smart device. It is convenience at its finest!

What Parts of my Pool Can I Automate?

Almost any type of equipment, from pumps to lights to heaters, can be controlled wirelessly through an automation system, allowing you to set the mood in your backyard before you get home.

Pool Pumps

Control the flow of water to features or turn your pump on and off.

Lighting

Set the mood from anywhere by controlling the color and intensity of your pool lights. You can even pre-program light shows.

Temperature

A connected pool heater will allow you to heat up your pool or spa so it's ready to jump in when you get home.

Hot Tubs

Turn on the jets via remote.

Features

Turn laminar jets, fountains or waterfalls on or off.

Chlorinators

Monitor salt level and adjust chlorine output.

SOME *hot* TIPS ON CARING FOR YOUR SPA



There's nothing quite like slipping into a steamy spa to start the day or wash away tensions at day's end. A spa, just like any other cherished possession, requires periodic maintenance and upkeep to keep it at its best.

The most important things to monitor when caring for your spa is sanitation and water balance. But remember, spas are much different than swimming pools. Four people in a spa are equivalent to having 250 people in an average-sized swimming pool. High temperatures and the ratio of people to water means more residual soaps, deodorants, perfumes, natural body oils and perspiration are released into spa water. This can create excessive organic contaminants, which can only be eliminated using products that are specially formulated for spas

Understanding the chemistry of a healthy spa

The biggest consideration is whether to use chlorine or bromine. Both are effective in daily sanitizing. However, chlorine breaks down faster at higher temperatures and can release a strong odor as it does. Bromine is typically the most popular way to sanitize spa water. No matter which one you choose, more is not better when using these chemicals. When you overload your spa, you're setting yourself up for equipment failure due to corrosion.

1. Chlorine

Ideal Range, 2.0-4.0 ppm

Proper chlorine levels are crucial. At the same time, proper pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness levels must also be kept in check to insure that chlorine can do its job effectively. When not in balance, your water can become corrosive, and attack heating elements, pump seals and internal gas fired heaters.

2. Bromine

Ideal Range, 4.0-6.0 ppm

Bromine has become so popular because it is less harsh to the skin and works better than chlorine in hot water. Unlike chlorine, bromine is effective even after disinfecting. It's also more pH stable and easier to maintain in the proper level by using tablets in a floating dispenser. However, the same rules apply - pH, total alkalinity and calcium hardness must be kept in check to prevent corrosion to spa equipment.

PRO *Tip*

Bromine is a popular choice to sanitize spas and hot tubs because it tends to hold up better in higher water temperatures.

3. Total Alkalinity

Ideal Range, 80-120 ppm

Total alkalinity is the spa water's ability to neutralize acid, and is an indicator of the water's ability to resist changes

in pH. If readings are below 80 ppm, add Solus Spa pH Up until you're back in the acceptable range. If readings are above 120, add Solus Spa pH Down to get back in balance.

4. pH

Ideal Range, 7.2-7.6

Instead of measuring in parts per million, pH is read on a 14-point scale, with 7.2-7.6 being ideal for bathers. pH indicates how acidic or alkaline your spa water is. A pH reading below seven would be acidic, while eight or above would be alkaline. If readings are below 7.2, add Solus pH Up. Readings above 7.6 can be brought back into check using Solus pH Down.

5. Calcium Hardness

Ideal Range, 200-400 ppm

This is a measurement of the calcium and magnesium in your spa water. When levels are low, corrosion can occur and the water can get foamy. When levels are too high, scale can form and water becomes irritating to the skin and eyes. Low hardness can be corrected using Solus Calcium Booster.

6. Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

Ideal Level, 1,500 ppm

This is everything that gets dissolved into spa water, including metals, chemicals and salts. If TDS is too high, the water can become salty or have a tint to it. To decrease TDS, just add fresh water. Be sure to retest your spa water and check the overall water balance afterward.



The shocking truth about spas

To maintain the perfectly balanced spa, you should shock after every use or at least once a week, whichever is more frequent. Unlike your pool, spas are shocked with a non-chlorine shock or oxidizer that eliminates odors and reduces irritating contaminants. Non-chlorine shocks are broken down in warm water as easily as liquid chlorine is in a swimming pool.

Sending spa myths down the drain

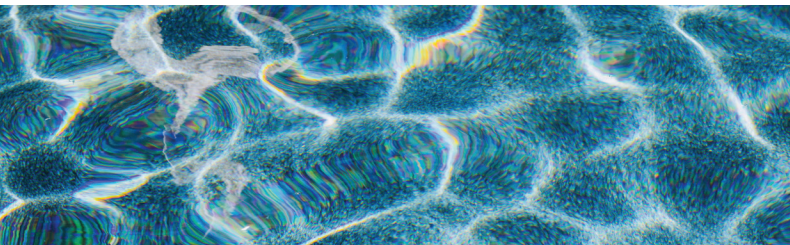
Draining your pool is always a last resort, but it's a periodic necessity when caring for your spa. Chemical by-products and other contaminants quickly build up in spa water after continued use, and make the water more difficult to balance. How often you drain your spa depends upon the size of the spa and number of bathers. If your spa sees a lot of use, drain it once a month. If use is infrequent, drain it every 3 months. Once you've refilled your spa, shock the water, run the pump to circulate the water for four hours, then retest and rebalance the water chemistry.

Acing spa water tests

It's easy and painless. But you should do it often—at least twice a week all year round. First, check your test kit reagents. A good rule of thumb is to write the purchase date on the bottle and replace them after one year. After testing, be sure to clean your test vials thoroughly since residual chemicals can falsify future tests.

To get started, circulate the water before testing, then take a sample at least 18 inches below the surface. Read your results immediately. Remember - never use your fingers in place of a test vial cap because oil from your skin can skew results.

Test strips are also effective, but you should take the same precautions. Never put your fingers inside the container to remove the strips, and be sure to keep the container tightly closed and dry in between testing.



The Natural Choice for your Spa



above **GROUND POOL CARE**

The basic rules that apply to water chemistry for in-ground pools apply to your above-ground pool. The water must stay balanced, you need to follow the ABC program to keep your pool its clearest and healthiest, and you should keep it free from debris. The biggest difference between caring for an above-ground vs. an in-ground pool is in the tools you use.

Liners

Let's start from the ground up with the liner. The thicker the liner, the more resistant it is to being punctured by stones, pool toys and general use. Liners come in all different shapes, sizes and patterns, including tile mosaics, marble looks and more. Be sure to ask your Pinch A Penny expert to help you choose the right replacement liner when the time comes.



Equip yourself with products designed exclusively for above-ground pools

For instance, just as you would never use a steel brush on a vinyl liner, you also shouldn't expect an in-ground automatic pool cleaner to work in your above-ground pool. We carry a complete line of automatic pool cleaners just for above-ground pools.

PRO

Tip

Ask the experts at Pinch A Penny which pool entry system is right for your pool.

Covers, blankets, blanket reels, pumps, motors, filters and skimmers are also specifically designed for above-ground pools to help extend the life of both your liner and your pool. Even gas heating systems can be purchased so you can enjoy year-round swimming, but are much smaller than those you would use for an in-ground pool.

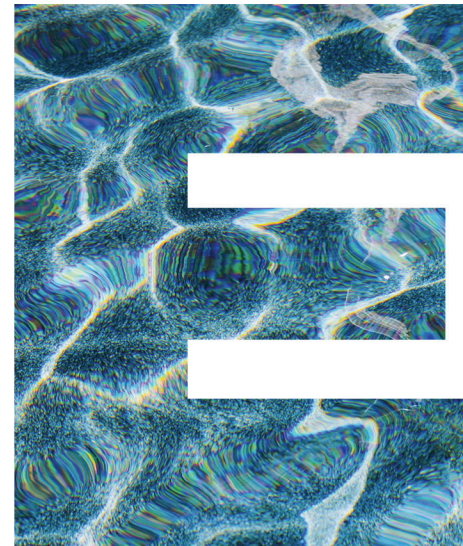
Pump and filter combination packs for above-ground pools

In addition, there are a myriad of entry systems to choose from, including in-pool steps, removable safety ladders and ladders that attach to decks. With the proper equipment, accessories, and maintenance routine, your above-ground pool will provide many years of enjoyment.





STAYING



IN THE POOL

Poolside fun and safety should always go hand in hand. That's why Pinch A Penny carries the widest assortment of pool safety products you'll find anywhere - everything from alarms and Coast Guard-approved buoys to life jackets and vests. While nothing can replace adult supervision, these products will help you feel secure in the fact that you've made your pool a safe haven for the whole family.

MAKE POOL SAFETY A *family* AFFAIR



While the safeguards listed on the previous page are crucial to pool safety, they are never a good substitute for supervision. Make sure your children follow the Buddy System and never swim without a partner.

Important pool safety tips

1. No matter what the age of a child, adult supervision can help avoid injuries due to rough play or when children become tired.
2. Always maintain visual contact when children are swimming.
3. Get out of the water immediately if a storm approaches.
4. Keep a shepherd's crook (like lifeguards use) and hard foam life preserver nearby in case of emergency.
5. Use floating markers to indicate where shallow water begins to deepen.
6. Use depth markings to clearly indicate the depth of the water.
7. Make sure at least one family member is CPR certified.
8. Fence in any pool area, and keep gates locked.
9. We always recommend using pool, door and gate alarms to help provide an early warning of any unexpected entry into the pool. This is a simple additional safeguard to employ even if your pool has a safety barrier.
10. Keep your pool chemicals in a locked chemical storage area away from the water.
11. Keep a phone with you poolside at all times.

Handle with care

One of the most important, yet often overlooked things to remember about pool safety is how you handle chemicals.

Tips to help prevent chemical accidents:

1. When adding more than one chemical to your pool, always add them to the water separately. Mixing chemicals can result in dangerous reactions. Remember to always follow the label instructions on each chemical bottle, bucket or bag before use.
2. Keep chemicals out of children's reach.
3. Never overdose your pool. The theory that if a little is good, then a lot is better simply doesn't apply to pool care.
4. If instructed to mix a chemical in a bucket of water prior to adding it to your pool, always add the chemical to the bucket of water, not the other way around. Again, remember to follow the label instructions on each chemical bottle, bucket or bag before use.
5. Use a clean, dry scoop or measuring cup when measuring chemicals. Interchanging scoops or using a wet scoop can be dangerous.
6. Avoid breathing fumes or rubbing your eyes, nose or mouth when handling chemicals. When opening, turn your head away from the container.
7. When spills happen, clean them as soon as they occur and dispose of all chemicals safely. Most small spills can simply be diluted in pool water. Never, ever use a vacuum to clean up spills.
8. Don't smoke around chemicals. Some fumes and chemicals are highly flammable.
9. Store chemicals properly. Always keep them closed when not in use, as some are corrosive and should never be stored near metal items like bicycles, lawn mowers or cars.

CHARTING YOUR PROGRESS

Here's what you do to raise or lower the chemical components of pool water and increase your family's fun.

IF THE GOAL IS...		THEN ADD...
Total Alkalinity (TA)	Raise TA	Suncoast Total Alkalinity Increaser
	Lower TA	Salinity Acid or Suncoast pH Minus
pH	Raise pH	Suncoast pH Plus
	Lower pH	Salinity Acid or Suncoast pH Minus
Calcium Hardness	Raise Calcium Hardness	Suncoast Calcium Hardness
	Lower Calcium Hardness	Dilute with Fresh Water or use Suncoast Metal Control
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	Lower TDS	Dilute with Fresh Water
Stabilizer	Increase Stabilizer	Suncoast Stabilizer/Conditioner
	Decrease Stabilizer	Dilute with Fresh Water



Raise pH with base demand using Suncoast pH Plus

BASE DEMAND	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
1	0.5 oz	2.6 oz	5.1 oz	7.7 oz	10.3 oz	1.6 lbs
2	1.0 oz	5.1 oz	10.3 oz	15.4 oz	1.3 lbs	3.2 lbs
3	1.5 oz	7.7 oz	15.4 oz	1.4 lbs	1.9 lbs	4.8 lbs
4	2.1 oz	10.3 oz	1.3 lbs	1.9 lbs	2.5 lbs	6.4 lbs
5	2.6 oz	12.8 oz	1.6 lbs	2.4 lbs	3.2 lbs	8.0 lbs
6	3.1 oz	15.4 oz	1.9 lbs	2.9 lbs	3.9 lbs	9.6 lbs
7	3.6 oz	1.1 lbs	2.2 lbs	3.4 lbs	4.5 lbs	11.2 lbs
8	4.1 oz	1.3 lbs	2.6 lbs	3.8 lbs	5.1 lbs	12.8 lbs
9	4.6 oz	1.4 lbs	2.9 lbs	4.3 lbs	5.8 lbs	14.4 lbs
10	5.1 oz	1.6 lbs	3.2 lbs	4.8 lbs	6.4 lbs	16.0 lbs

Lower pH with acid demand using Salinity Acid (20° Baume/31.45% hcl)

ACID DEMAND	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
1	0.9 oz	4.6 oz	9.2 oz	13.7 oz	1.2 pts	1.4 qts
2	1.8 oz	9.2 oz	1.2 pts	1.7 pts	1.2 qts	2.9 qts
3	2.8 oz	13.7 oz	1.7 pts	1.3 qts	1.7 qts	1.1 gals
4	3.7 oz	1.2 pts	1.2 qts	1.7 qts	2.3 qts	1.4 gals
5	4.9 oz	1.4 pts	1.4 qts	2.1 qts	2.9 qts	1.8 gals
6	5.5 oz	1.7 pts	1.7 qts	2.6 qts	3.4 qts	2.2 gals
7	6.4 oz	1.0 qts	2.0 qts	3.0 qts	1.0 gals	2.5 gals
8	7.3 oz	1.2 qts	2.3 qts	3.4 qts	1.2 gals	2.9 gals
9	8.3 oz	1.3 qts	2.6 qts	3.9 qts	1.3 gals	3.2 gals
10	9.2 oz	1.4 qts	2.9 qts	1.1 gals	1.4 gals	3.6 gals

Lower pH with acid demand using Suncoast pH Minus

ACID DEMAND	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
1	1.2 oz	6.2 oz	12.3 oz	1.2 lbs	1.5 lbs	3.9 lbs
2	2.5 oz	12.3 oz	1.5 lbs	2.3 lbs	3.1 lbs	7.7 lbs
3	3.7 oz	1.2 lbs	2.3 lbs	3.5 lbs	4.6 lbs	11.6 lbs
4	4.9 oz	1.6 lbs	3.1 lbs	4.6 lbs	6.7 lbs	15.4 lbs
5	6.2 oz	1.9 lbs	3.9 lbs	5.8 lbs	7.7 lbs	19.3 lbs
6	7.4 oz	2.3 lbs	4.6 lbs	6.9 lbs	9.2 lbs	23.1 lbs
7	8.6 oz	2.7 lbs	5.4 lbs	8.1 lbs	10.8 lbs	27.0 lbs
8	9.9 oz	3.1 lbs	6.2 lbs	9.2 lbs	12.3 lbs	30.8 lbs
9	11.1 oz	3.5 lbs	6.9 lbs	10.4 lbs	13.9 lbs	34.7 lbs
10	12.3 oz	3.9 lbs	7.7 lbs	11.6 lbs	15.4 lbs	38.5 lbs

Raise total alkalinity using Suncoast Total Alkalinity Increaser

Desired Increase in PPM	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
10 ppm	2.2 oz	11.2 oz	1.4 lbs	2.1 lbs	2.8 lbs	7.0 lbs
20 ppm	4.5 oz	1.4 lbs	2.8 lbs	4.2 lbs	5.6 lbs	14.0 lbs
30 ppm	6.7 oz	2.1 lbs	4.2 lbs	6.3 lbs	8.4 lbs	21.0 lbs
40 ppm	9.0 oz	2.8 lbs	5.6 lbs	8.4 lbs	11.2 lbs	28.0 lbs
50 ppm	11.2 oz	3.5 lbs	7.0 lbs	10.5 lbs	14.0 lbs	35.0 lbs
60 ppm	13.4 oz	4.2 lbs	8.4 lbs	12.6 lbs	16.8 lbs	42.0 lbs
70 ppm	15.7 oz	4.9 lbs	9.8 lbs	14.7 lbs	19.6 lbs	49.0 lbs
80 ppm	1.1 lbs	5.6 lbs	11.2 lbs	16.8 lbs	22.4 lbs	56.0 lbs
90 ppm	1.3 lbs	6.3 lbs	12.6 lbs	18.9 lbs	25.2 lbs	63.0 lbs
100 ppm	1.4 lbs	7.0 lbs	14.0 lbs	21.0 lbs	28.0 lbs	70.0 lbs

Lower total alkalinity using Salinity Acid (20° Baume/31.45% hcl)

Desired Decrease in PPM	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
10 ppm	2.6 oz	12.8 oz	1.6 pts	1.2 qts	1.6 qts	4.0 qts
20 ppm	5.1 oz	1.6 pts	1.6 qts	2.4 qts	3.2 qts	2.0 gal
30 ppm	7.7 oz	1.2 qts	2.4 qts	3.6 qts	1.2 gals	3.0 gals
40 ppm	10.2 oz	1.6 qts	3.2 qts	1.2 gals	1.6 gals	4.0 gals
50 ppm	12.8 oz	2.0 qts	4.0 qts	1.5 gals	2.0 gals	5.0 gals
60 ppm	15.3 oz	2.4 qts	1.2 gals	1.8 gals	2.4 gals	6.0 gals
70 ppm	1.1 pts	2.8 qts	1.4 gals	2.1 gals	2.8 gals	7.0 gals
80 ppm	1.3 pts	3.2 qts	1.6 gals	2.4 gals	3.2 gals	8.0 gals
90 ppm	1.4 pts	3.6 qts	1.8 gals	2.7 gals	3.6 gals	9.0 gals
100 ppm	1.6 pts	4.0 qts	2.0 gals	3.0 gals	4.0 gals	10 gals

Lower total alkalinity using Suncoast pH Minus

Desired Decrease in PPM	GALLONS IN POOL					
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	50,000
10 ppm	3.4 oz	1.1 lbs	2.2 lbs	3.2 lbs	4.3 lbs	10.7 lbs
20 ppm	6.9 oz	2.2 lbs	4.3 lbs	6.5 lbs	8.6 lbs	21.5 lbs
30 ppm	10.3 oz	3.2 lbs	6.5 lbs	9.7 lbs	12.9 lbs	32.2 lbs
40 ppm	13.7 oz	4.3 lbs	8.6 lbs	12.9 lbs	17.2 lbs	43.0 lbs
50 ppm	1.1 lbs	5.4 lbs	10.7 lbs	16.1 lbs	21.5 lbs	53.7 lbs
60 ppm	1.3 lbs	6.5 lbs	12.9 lbs	19.4 lbs	25.8 lbs	64.5 lbs
70 ppm	1.5 lbs	7.5 lbs	15.0 lbs	22.6 lbs	30.1 lbs	75.2 lbs
80 ppm	1.7 lbs	8.6 lbs	17.2 lbs	25.8 lbs	34.4 lbs	85.9 lbs
90 ppm	1.9 lbs	9.8 lbs	19.3 lbs	29.0 lbs	38.7 lbs	96.7 lbs
100 ppm	2.2 lbs	10.7 lbs	21.5 lbs	32.3 lbs	43.0 lbs	107 lbs

How to increase calcium hardness using Suncoast Calcium Hardness

Desired Increase in PPM	GALLONS IN POOL						
	5,000	10,000	20,000	30,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
10 ppm	0.5 oz	1.0 lb	2.0 lbs	3.0 lbs	4.0 lbs	5.0 lbs	6.0 lbs
20 ppm	1.0 lb	2.0 lbs	4.0 lbs	6.0 lbs	8.0 lbs	10.0 lbs	12.0 lbs
30 ppm	1.5 lbs	3.0 lbs	6.0 lbs	9.0 lbs	12.0 lbs	15.0 lbs	18.0 lbs
40 ppm	2.0 lbs	4.0 lbs	8.0 lbs	12.0 lbs	16.0 lbs	20.0 lbs	24.0 lbs
50 ppm	2.5 lbs	5.0 lbs	10.0 lbs	15.0 lbs	20.0 lbs	25.0 lbs	30.0 lbs
60 ppm	3.0 lbs	6.0 lbs	12.0 lbs	18.0 lbs	24.0 lbs	30.0 lbs	36.0 lbs
70 ppm	3.5 lbs	7.0 lbs	14.0 lbs	21.0 lbs	28.0 lbs	35.0 lbs	42.0 lbs
80 ppm	4.0 lbs	8.0 lbs	16.0 lbs	24.0 lbs	32.0 lbs	40.0 lbs	48.0 lbs
90 ppm	4.5 lbs	9.0 lbs	18.0 lbs	27.0 lbs	36.0 lbs	45.0 lbs	54.0 lbs
100 ppm	5.0 lbs	10.0 lbs	20.0 lbs	30.0 lbs	40.0 lbs	50.0 lbs	60.0 lbs

How to increase stabilizer or conditioner using Suncoast Conditioner

Desired Increase in PPM	GALLONS IN POOL						
	1,000	5,000	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000	50,000
10 ppm	1.3 oz	6.3 oz	12.5 oz	1.2 lbs	1.6 lbs	2.0 lbs	3.9 lbs
20 ppm	2.5 oz	12.5 oz	1.6 lbs	2.3 lbs	3.1 lbs	3.9 lbs	7.8 lbs
30 ppm	3.8 oz	1.2 lbs	2.3 lbs	3.5 lbs	4.7 lbs	5.9 lbs	11.7 lbs
40 ppm	5.0 oz	1.6 lbs	3.1 lbs	4.7 lbs	6.3 lbs	7.8 lbs	15.6 lbs
50 ppm	6.3 oz	2.0 lbs	3.9 lbs	5.9 lbs	7.8 lbs	9.8 lbs	19.5 lbs



YOUR POOL PROFILE

Pool

Shape: _____

Dimensions: _____

Capacity in gallons: _____

Type of finish: _____

Skimmer: (Make & Model) _____

Timer: _____

Lights: _____

Transformer: _____

Piping size/type: _____

Date pool completed/purchased: _____

Builder's name & telephone: _____

Pump

Make/motor: _____

Horsepower: _____

Volts: _____

Make/time clock: _____

Hours of operation: _____

Date purchased: _____

Filter

Type: _____

Make/model: _____

Backwash pressure: _____

Clean start-up pressure: _____

Date purchased: _____

Automatic Pool Cleaner

Make/model: _____

Serial number: _____

Date purchased: _____

What else makes your pool different? (trees nearby, windy site, heavy use, small children, etc.).

Chlorination Equipment

Chlorine Generator/Salt Generator

Type: _____

Make/model: _____

Heater

Type: _____

Make/model: _____

BTU rating: _____

Serial number: _____

Date purchased: _____

Another helpful way to keep track of your pool and its equipment is to take lots of pictures. Your Pinch A Penny expert will appreciate your foresight and thoughtfulness should a problem arise.

Please bring this form into the store so we may add your pool's profile to your computer water analysis history.

For the store nearest you visit our website at

PINCHAPENNY.COM



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PinchAPennypoolfranchise.com

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PINCH·A·PENNY
POOL·PATIO·SPA[®]
OVER 50 YEARS OF EXPERTISE