

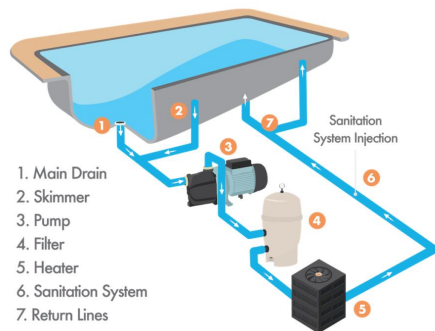


Pool School

Meeting your system

Most pool systems will include the same equipment, depending on what you got installed it could be more or less. Here's a general idea of how your system works

The Swimming Pool Anatomy



- Water gets pulled through main drain and skimmer by the pump
- Pump pushes water through the filter
- A sacrificial Zinc anode is placed after the filter in our systems, this prevents corrosion to your equipment, the zinc bar can be replaced once it starts getting thinned out by the water
- If your system has a heater, then the water gets heated before it gets sanitized
- Water then passes through the sanitizer and gets sent back into your pool through the returns

First 30 days after a new construction

After a new construction your system will be on 24/7 to remove plaster dust and debris that could be sitting in your pool. The system can be shut off for maintenance but must be turned back on after. The pump will be running at full speed so the amount of wattage being used will be high for the first month. We want the pump running at full capacity throughout the 30 days to filter out plaster dust or pebbles from the new construction. During this time if a heater or salt chlorinator is installed, they will remain shut off. That piece of equipment requires the pool to be free of plaster dust for operation. If you have a saltwater pool, since we can't turn on the chlorinator for the first 30 days you will need to supplement the pool with the chlorine on your own. The pH will be high because of the dust, in order to bring it down to a balanced level you will need to add muriatic acid. If you over add acid Baking soda will cause it to rise, you will have a month to get your chemicals balanced before we clean the filter and put the pool equipment on a normal operation schedule.

Daily Maintenance

- **Brush the pool**

Starting from the shallow end of your pool, push the plaster dust off any ledges or steps you may have towards the deep end. Do this at least once a day, the more often you brush the faster your system will filter out the plaster dust. For the first week you can brush the walls the dust will settle on the pool floor.

- **Skim debris on the surface**

With the net on the pole, go around your pool clearing the surface of debris. If Debris falls to the pool floor, brush the debris to one side of the pool and pick it up with the net. Dust will be harder to pick up then leaves or other large debris, once you get most of the big trash push the dust to the main drains.

- **Empty skimmer basket**

The skimmers have a basket that catches debris as the water gets pulled through. Take out the basket and empty it out and place it back in the skimmer.

- **Empty pump basket**

To check the pump basket, you must first turn off the pump. You don't want the the pump running while the pump basket lid is open, water will shoot out of the intake pipes. Clear the debris in the basket and put back in correct position. There is a opening in the basket that should face the intake pipes. Close the lid and turn the pump back on.

- **Check chemical balance**

We recommend you use the Aquachek 7 test strips, they let you read chlorine levels, pH, alkalinity, water hardness and cyanuric acid. To check the balance you will get a strip, and put it under the water for 3 seconds. Once you take it out, Put the strip against the bottle and measure with the colors on the side of the bottle. The main ones you will be focusing on is the chlorine balanced and the pH/Alkalinity. The pH and alkalinity work with each other. To keep the pH balanced you will need the alkalinity balanced. pH measures how acidic or basic the water is. Alkalinity is a buffer in your water that neutralizes acids and bases. Besides pH and alkalinity the other chemical you'll need to keep balanced is the chlorine. Now in a saltwater pool since you can't turn the salt chlorinator on for the first month, you'll need to supplement the pool with your own chlorine. You can use liquid chlorine, tablets or powder.

- **Add Chemicals**

You will have to add muriatic acid for high pH. When adding the acid, slowly pour it directly into the pool, make sure its the last thing you do, you dont want to touch the water for about 3-4 hours after putting acid in. Add a quart if the pH is higher than the balanced reading. If you over add acid and the reading gives you acidic water then you can use baking soda to make the pH go up. This will also affect the alkalinity. You wont be adding acid everyday, it usually takes about a week and a half to get the water balanced. It wont always stay balanced so youll have to keep an eye on it.

- **Spa Maintenance**

If you have a pool/spa combo then in order to clean the spa you will need to put the pool system on spa mode, this will only circulate the water in the spa. Its better to clean your spa when youre not putting acid in the pool since when you put acid, the water needs to circulate. Put the system in spa mode and brush the spa. Let spa mode run for a couple of hours, you'll want to repeat this at about three times a week to filter out plaster dust that settles in your spa. When you're done with spa mode, turn it off and run the pump for the pool.

Keep this same Routine for the whole 30 days, keep your pool clean and the water balanced. In the follow up meeting we'll go over a regular maintenance routine, how to use your heater if you have one, system operations, and how to clean your filter.