

# CAL~STOP®

Keep your pool looking stunning all year round.

## Inhibits formation of calcium scale in salt and freshwater pools

Calcium is a naturally occurring mineral that is frequently found in high concentrations. It's important to control its levels to ensure proper water quality and maintain the beauty of your pool. High pool water calcium hardness levels, especially above 400 PPM, can sometimes reduce the clarity of water and cause scaling issues. Use Cal-Stop® to inhibit the formation of calcium scale in salt and freshwater pools and maintain their great look.

- Suitable for all pool surface types
- Softens calcium build-up so that it is easy to brush off
- Minimises calcium build up and scale formation on pool surfaces, pipes, filtration systems and heaters
- Holds calcium in suspension (up to 1.000PPM)
- Each 1.9 litre bottle of Cal-Stop® will treat between 40,000 – 50,000 litres of pool water and lasts up to six months.



Softens the build up of calcium in your salt cell.

# Start up procedure for rendered pools

Any new pool with a rendered finish is most vulnerable to calcium build-up during what's called the "start-up period", or the first 4 weeks after installation. Ensure you strictly follow these steps in order to prevent damage to your new pool surface.

Add 'Cal-Stop®' as soon the pool has been filled. Cal-Stop® is an additive designed to keep dissolved minerals, such as calcium, in their liquid form. This will prevent the minerals from solidifying and 'scaling out' on the surface. Note: Cal-Stop® does not remove existing calcium scale, it is a preventative measure.

Ensure that your pool water is balanced to the recommended levels as soon as your pool is filled. If you have used a pool builder, they often will do this for you prior to the handover of the pool. Note: Do not adjust CH until after 4 weeks.

Your pH will rise rapidly over the first month. If your pH level rises above 8.0, calcium scale may start forming on the walls and floor of your pool even if you have used CAL-STOP® appropriately. Because of this, it is vital that your pH is maintained within the suggested range. Following this schedule will help maintain your pH levels:

## **First week – every day**

## **Week 2 – every second day**

## **Weeks 3 and 4 – every third or fourth day 7**

Test TA weekly and adjust as necessary. If TA is lower than 100ppm (parts per million), increase to recommended levels by adding total alkalinity increaser (your local pool shop can provide detailed information).

Do not add calcium within the first 4 weeks. Your calcium hardness will increase over the first few weeks as the cement in your concrete shell and in the render cures.

Brush the walls and floor of your pool daily with a nylon pool brush to remove chemical and mineral residues from the surface. Allow the residue to settle then manually vacuum excess residue and backwash the filter.

Do not add salt within the first 4 weeks. Instead, we suggest stabilised liquid chlorine for water sanitation during the start up period.

## **Week 5 Onwards**

Test pH and TA weekly and balance to the levels recommended on the inside front cover.

Add hydrochloric acid and total alkalinity increaser as required.

Test CH immediately in Week 5, if it's lower than 200 ppm (parts per million), increase to within recommended levels by adding calcium hardness increaser. Later, test CH monthly and balance.

Brush the walls and floor of your pool with a nylon pool brush regularly to remove chemical and mineral residues from the surface. Allow the residue to settle, then manually vacuum excess residue to waste. Do this as long as residue continues to appear on the walls and floor.

Add salt (if it has not been already added) and start the salt-water chlorinator. Spread the salt evenly around the pool (keep moving the salt in the water until it is fully dissolved). Do not allow undissolved salt to settle at the bottom of the pool, this can create salt stains.



## Symptoms

- Surface appears patchy or blotchy – apparent loss of colour.
- May feel sharp or abrasive to touch
- Unable to remove algae with chlorine.
- Also apparent on tiles and or pool fittings.
- Colour – usually white but can be discoloured (brown, grey or green) if dirt, metals or algae have plated out at the same with the scale.

## Cause

The following either happen on their own or in combination:

- High pH level causing the calcium in the water to precipitate out of solution and plate onto the surface.
- Calcium levels out of recommended limits
- High water temperature.

## Solution

If scale hasn't been on the surface for too long, lower the pH to between 6.5 and 6.8 (using hydrochloric acid). Leave at this level for approximately 1 week and brush the affected areas over the duration to remove the scale. Take a water test and balance accordingly. Monitor the surface texture of the pool daily. If the surface becomes rough over exposure may occur. To prevent over exposure, increase the pH with pH increaser as soon as excessive roughness is detected.

After performing this procedure, it is imperative that calcium levels in the water are returned to recommended levels (200 – 250 ppm). Failure to do so could cause excessive acid demand which in turn will weaken the surface and may lead to other problems.

If scale has been on the surface for a number of months then the pool will most likely have to be drained and acid washed, then filled up and re-balanced. Experienced pool technicians may add acid (10 – 15 L for average 50,000L pool) to the pool the day before it's drained to soften the calcium. The pool is then drained and using a high pressure cleaner, the calcium is water blasted off. The pool is then refilled and rebalanced.

To avoid future calcium scale occurrences, maintain Cal-Stop® in your pool water. This can be achieved by purchasing a bottle of Cal-Stop® from your local pool shop every 6 months. Cal-Stop® keeps calcium in solution even if the pH level does increase. If your local pool shop doesn't stock Cal-stop then please call River Sands on 07 3287 6444 or 1800 077 744 toll free to locate your nearest supplier.

