



# HIGH pH

High pH can result in cloudy water and contribute to scale formation.

## Probable causes

- Mains water which has a naturally high pH
- Use of alkaline sanitisers
- Excess addition of pH Increaser

Regulating pH is one of the most important aspects of pool care and it should be maintained in the range 7.2 - 7.6. High pH will also reduce the effectiveness of chlorine based sanitisers.

SANITISER



SHOCK



WATER BALANCE



PREVENTION OR CURE



## 1. Effect of mains water

The pH and alkalinity of your mains (make up) water will have a major influence on the water balance of the pool e.g. the pH, alkalinity etc. It is therefore important to regularly check both pH and alkalinity of the mains water when either refilling the pool or adding a substantial quantity of fresh water. Action can then be taken to make any necessary corrections to the pH and/or alkalinity.

It is also important to regularly check the pH and alkalinity of the pool water. These two properties are closely linked and a high pH can also mean there is a high alkalinity. A high alkalinity will make it difficult to lower the pH. To determine total alkalinity levels, use an alkalinity test kit or test strips.

## 2. Effect of sanitiser

The sanitiser being used can have a significant effect on the pH. Of the chlorine based sanitisers in regular use, sodium hypochlorite (liquid chlorine) and calcium hypochlorite will tend to increase the pH. Sodium hypochlorite is strongly alkaline and will invariably require the use of a pH reducer. The effect that calcium hypochlorite has on the pH will depend on the make up of the mains water, i.e. whether the water is soft or hard.

## 3. Excess use of pH increaser

It is important not to routinely add pH increaser without testing the pool water. Carry out regular tests and only add the quantities of chemical indicated by the test.

### Action to be taken

#### 1. To reduce pH

- Whatever the cause of high pH, it should be reduced to within the recommended range. To lower the pH, dose **Fi-Clor pH & Alkalinity Reducer** at a rate of 500g per 50m<sup>3</sup> (11,000 gallons). With the circulation running, distribute around the pool, avoiding the skimmers. Do not dose it in one spot otherwise some alkalinity may be destroyed.
- If it is necessary to reduce both the pH and alkalinity, treat the alkalinity before the pH. To reduce the alkalinity, refer to the Troubleshooting Guide for 'pH Resistant to Movement'.

### What you may need...

**Fi-Clor pH & Alkalinity Reducer 7kg**  
To correct high pH



**Before adding any chemicals to your pool, ensure nobody is swimming. Keep the circulation running to ensure adequate dispersion of the chemicals**