

# How to Balance Your Pool Water

The first step in maintaining perfect pool water is to keep the water in balance. Balanced water prevents algae growth, cloudy water, scale buildup, corrosion and equipment damage. It also ensures maximum sanitizer efficiency.

The chlorine in your pool water can work most effectively when ideal ranges are maintained.

Quick and simple testing of basic pool water components will keep your water healthy and sparkling clear.



## What to Use

It is wise to choose a kit or package of test strips which perform many different pool water tests to accurately assess your pool water. We recommend replacing the chemical components (reagents) of the kit annually. Reagents lose their strength over the course of a season, and by exposure to direct sunlight or extreme temperatures.

### Test Kits

A basic “duo-test Kit” measures free available chlorine and pH levels. Four or Five way Test Kits measure free available, total chlorine, total alkalinity, calcium hardness and pH levels. Before purchasing, check the individual test kits for the tests they perform.

### Test Strips

Test Strips are “dip and read” strips of paper that turn colors indicating levels of pH, total alkalinity, free available chlorine and stabilizer (cyanuric acid) levels. Test strip are fairly simple to use and relatively accurate.

## WHAT TO TEST

## WHEN TO TEST

## IDEAL RANGE

**pH**

Daily

7.2 – 7.6

**Free Available Chlorine**

Daily

2.0 – 4.0 ppm

**Total Chlorine**

Daily

2.0 – 4.0 ppm

**Total Alkalinity**

Weekly

80 – 120 ppm \*

**Calcium Hardness**

Weekly

200 – 400 ppm \*

**Stabilizer (Cyanuric Acid)**

Monthly

30 – 50 ppm