

Rainforest Pools Water-Care Basics



Keeping your water crystal clear is a simple task if you follow these steps:

Recommended Chemistry Ranges for your Rainforest Pool:

- **pH:** 7.2-7.4
- **Calcium Hardness:** Less than 120
- **Total Alkalinity:** 80-120
- **Total Chlorine:** 1 – 3 ppm
- **CYA:** 30-50 ppm
- **Metals:** 0
- **TDS:** Less than 1,500 ppm
- **Salt:** 2,700- 3,400

Rainforest Pools Tip: Test water 1-2 times per week (more often with heavy use or rain), follow product labels, and consult your Rainforest Pools dealer if levels drift.

When getting your water tested, be sure to tell them it is a **FIBERGLASS POOL** and the gallonage. Concrete pools require different chemistry to keep them in balance.

Calcium and Your Fiberglass Pool Surface

At Rainforest Pools, we want your fiberglass pool to look beautiful for decades. One of the biggest factors that can affect the appearance of your pool's gelcoat surface is **calcium buildup**.

Calcium is often the root cause of discoloration on fiberglass pools. When your pool water is properly balanced—meaning the **pH, chlorine, and calcium hardness** are kept within the recommended ranges—your gelcoat finish can last for many years with a smooth, vibrant look.

However, if **pH or chlorine levels rise above the ideal range**, the risk of surface staining or discoloration increases—especially if calcium hardness is also too high. Keeping these levels in check is the key to protecting your investment and ensuring your pool maintains its crystal-clear beauty.

- **Use Stain & Scale Control (Regularly)**
Dose a quality stain/metal & scale control to prevent discoloration and protect the gelcoat. These products contain chelating/sequestering agents that help keep metals in solution and reduce calcium scale.
- **Avoid Calcium Hypochlorite (Cal-Hypo)**
Cal-hypo shocks can be harsh on fiberglass surfaces. Instead, use **liquid chlorine (sodium hypochlorite)** or a **non-chlorine shock** to sanitize without risking surface damage.
- **Keep pH in the Sweet Spot: 7.2–7.4**
Maintaining pH between 7.2 and 7.4 helps preserve your finish and swimmer comfort. Saltwater systems tend to raise pH, so monitor closely and **never let pH exceed 7.8**.
- **Maintain Low Calcium Hardness (Below 120 ppm)**
Fiberglass pools do **not** need added calcium. Aim for **<120 ppm** to minimize scaling. If your fill water is higher, use a water softener or a stain & scale control product to prevent buildup and discoloration.
- **Chlorine the Right Way: Liquid Only (1–3 ppm)**
Maintain free chlorine between **1–3 ppm** using **liquid chlorine only**. If you temporarily raise chlorine, confirm your **pH is below 7.8** to protect the surface.