

# Pool care.

Tips & suggestions.



\$4.99





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## About your pool.

If you are a new customer, complete this page and have it handy when you visit your BioGuard® Approved Retailer.

It will help your BioGuard® Approved Retailer give you the best possible pool care.

Pool age (date of installation) \_\_\_\_\_

Shape:  Rectangle  Round  Oval  Free-form

Type:  Above-ground  In-ground

### Calculating pool volume.

Rectangular Pool	_____ m x _____ m x _____ m x 1000 = _____ litres
	[length] [width] [av. depth] [capacity]
Round & Oval Pool	_____ m x _____ m x _____ m x 780 = _____ litres
	[diameter] [diameter] [av. depth] [capacity]
Free Form Pool	To estimate capacity, contact your pool builder or check water meter before and after filling.

Interior Finish:  Vinyl  Concrete  Fibreglass  Pebble Mix  
 Marblesheen  Paint  Tiled  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Filter Type:  Sand  Diatomaceous earth (DE)  Cartridge  Zeolite  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Filter Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_

Pump Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_ Horsepower \_\_\_\_\_

Heater Type:  Natural Gas  Electric  Propane (LP)  Oil  Solar

Heater Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_ BTU \_\_\_\_\_

Chemical Feeder Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_

Automatic Pool Cleaner Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_

## Looking after your pool.



Whether you've just put in a pool, or had one for years, BioGuard® can help you look after it. Only BioGuard® gives you a unique combination of knowledgeable, thoroughly trained BioGuard® Approved Retailers, and the most advanced pool care technology and products. Together, we make taking care of your pool easy.

We offer maintenance programs for all types of pools. With each program you get simple, step-by-step instructions designed to give you what every pool owner wants – **healthy, sparkling clear, and algae free water**, with a minimum of fuss.

By using BioGuard® products, you also receive professional water analysis and problem-solving assistance from your local BioGuard® Approved Retailer. We recommend that you bring in a water sample once a month for a complete water analysis to keep your water sparkling.

## BioGuard® pool care products.

We've got products for all kinds of salt water and fresh water pool care requirements. Here's a quick look at the product categories and their uses.

### Sanitisers.

Sanitisers are a key ingredient of basic pool maintenance.

Bacteria grows in any untreated body of water, posing a serious health risk and needs to be treated quickly and effectively. BioGuard® offers a range of sanitisers in granular or tablet form to best suit you and your pool's needs.



### Oxidisers.

Oxidisers help restore pool water to sparkling clarity.

Pool water accumulates a build up of waste material, introduced by swimmers and the environment, which over time causes unpleasant odours, skin and eye irritation and cloudy water. Oxidisers break down these organic wastes, making the water safer, cleaner and more comfortable to swim in.



### Algaecides.

Algae spores are always present in even the best maintained swimming pool.

Fast acting algaecides are designed to treat all algae types. An algae bloom can turn clear water into a green pool overnight, so a fast response is the key to restoring the health of your pool water.

You can also prevent algae bloom with BioGuard® Back-Up® II.



### Balancers.

Balancers are used to ensure there is the correct ratio of mineral content and pH in pool water. Non-balanced water can lead to cloudy water, corrosion, scale, swimmer discomfort, and pool equipment damage.

Balancers are essential to an effective pool care program, making maintenance easier and preventing common pool care issues from becoming major, costly problems.



**Pool Fact:** When green algae becomes visible, it is equivalent to 30 million algae spores in one shot glass.

## Synergy.

The Synergy range of products utilise borate technology to offer a complete, easy to use pool water management system. This enhances water comfort and clarity, reduces skin and eye irritation and prevents algae and bacteria growth.

Algae can grow and spread quickly, so prevention will save you time and money and ensure you have algae-free, sparkling water.



## Cleaners and Water Enhancers.

To ensure your pool water stays sparkling clear and healthy, BioGuard® offers a range of products for varying applications, including clarifiers, surface cleaners and products that combat foam.



## Stain Control.

BioGuard® also offers a product to prevent discoloured pool water and surface stains by reducing the presence of metals in pool water. Many alternative water sources, such as tank and bore water, can contain traces of metals such as iron, copper and manganese. Salt can also contain traces of iron. If left untreated these can cause discoloured water and surface stains, so prevention is a must.

See your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for metal testing and recommendations.



Drop in to your nearest BioGuard® Approved Retailer for pool water testing and expert advice on the right products to maintain your pool. To find your nearest BioGuard® Approved Retailer phone [AU] 1300 313 414 or [NZ] 0508 313 414, or visit [www.bioguard.com](http://www.bioguard.com)

**Pool Fact: Australia has the highest number of pools per household in the world.**



## A clean pool in five quick steps.

To maintain a healthy pool, it's good to have a basic understanding of how it functions. We've outlined the five key things you should know to avoid potential problems. If you have any questions, please visit your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for assistance.

### 1. Circulate the water.

Pool water must be circulated for the chemicals to work properly and to avoid bacteria and algae taking hold. Circulate for at least 12 hours each day during the swimming season. During the off-season, filter for at least six hours each day. The best time to circulate the water is during the day.

### 2. Clean the filter.

The filter is one of your most important pieces of equipment. It removes both visible debris and most microscopic matter. When material gets trapped on or in the filter, remove it by backwashing (check your manufacturer's guidelines on backwashing). Filters also need to be chemically cleaned regularly to remove oils, scale and deeply embedded debris.

**NOTE:** Check local water usage guidelines.

### 3. Brush and vacuum.

All swimming pools have areas with little or no circulation. To prevent algae and bacteria from growing, the walls and floor should be brushed and vacuumed at least once a week. Brushing is a must, even if you use an automatic pool cleaner or a regular service person.

### 4. Test the water.

The amount of people using your pool, the weather and product application can all affect the balance of your water. Test your water two to three times per week. Also, take a sample of water to your BioGuard® Approved Retailer every month for a complete water analysis. It's free and greatly reduces potential problems.

### 5. Use the right products.

Apply the right products to your pool water at the right time. It will help provide a healthy pool and protect your equipment and pool surfaces. A BioGuard® Approved Retailer can set up a personalised maintenance program based on your needs.



## Benefits of preparing your pool for summer.

When summer's approaching, make sure you do some simple maintenance on your pool. That way you'll spend more time enjoying the warmer months and less time taking care of the pool.

Use a personalised treatment plan from your BioGuard® Approved Retailer and follow these easy guidelines:

### 1. Remove your pool cover.

Drain off the water, being careful not to drain the water back into your pool, then sweep the cover and clean it, to prevent sticking and unpleasant odours. Store the cover in a dry place away from exposure to the sun and elements.

### 2. Check the water level.

Your pool must be filled to the middle of the skimmer opening, allowing for proper circulation.

### 3. Check your pump, skimmer basket and filter.

Make sure all equipment is clean and in working order. Use BioGuard® Filter Brite™ to sanitise and revitalise the filter. Start the circulation system and remove debris from the pool.



### 4. Take in a water sample for testing.

Circulate the water for 24 to 48 hours before taking a water sample. Fill your BioGuard® Water Sample Bottle™ with your pool water, at elbow depth. Take this sample to your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for a complete water analysis.



### 5. Test sanitiser and pH levels.

When testing the pool water yourself, use a BioGuard® Test Kit™ or BioGuard® Test Strips™. For healthy, sparkling water, you need a Free Chlorine\* level of 1-3ppm, and a pH of 7.4-7.6.



\*Free Chlorine is the proportion of chlorine in the pool that treats algae and bacteria.

## What happens if you go on holiday?

If you're away for more than a week, your unattended pool will collect debris and bacteria that can upset water balance. To avoid problems use our special BioGuard® holiday program.

Before you go away follow these simple steps to keep your pool in shape.

1. **Shock** the pool with BioGuard® Burn Out Extreme®.
2. **Add** 200ml of BioGuard® Back Up® II per 10,000 litres of water for every week the pool will be left unattended. For salt pools, use BioGuard® Salt Pool Protector™.
3. **For best results**, continue normal filtration and circulation (at least 12 hours each day) using a timer.

When you return, just bring in a water sample to your BioGuard® Approved Retailer to ensure your pool is properly balanced and ready for swimming.

## Maintaining your pool throughout winter.

Once the winter pool cover goes on, it's easy to think you can just switch off. But actually, if you don't maintain your pool over winter the water can go green. You can also have chlorine problems, surface staining and equipment damage. These problems will cost you time and money.

This can be prevented by using our winter program and making the following preparations before you close your pool for winter:

1. **Test** your pool water with a BioGuard® Approved Retailer.
2. **Vacuum** and brush the walls of your pool.
3. **Clean** out the skimmer basket and the pump's hair/lint basket.
4. **Backwash** and clean the filter thoroughly with BioGuard® Filter Brite™.
5. **Add** a winter shock treatment such as BioGuard® Lite® or BioGuard® Salt Pool Sparkle®.
6. **Protect** the pool from algae with an algae inhibitor such as BioGuard® Back-Up® II.
7. **Cover** your pool to keep it debris free.
8. **Don't forget** to let the pump run for at least 6 hours per day over winter.

## Warmer climates.



In warmer climates many people choose to keep their pool running over winter. If you do, continue maintenance as usual with the following adjustments:

1. **Test** chlorine according to water temperature.  
(Once a month at 10 - 21°C , and twice a month over 21°C)
2. **Maintain** normal pH and total alkalinity levels.  
**Note:** Corrosion occurs more readily at lower temperatures.
3. **Clean** the pool regularly.
4. **Run the filter** for at least six hours each day.
5. **Continue** your routine maintenance program to keep your pool sparkling clear and free of bacteria and algae.

**Pool Fact:** In terms of organic waste, one dog = 40 people in your pool.

## FAQ's.

## 1. How do I get rid of algae?

**Green Algae**

Green algae is one of the most common problems for pools. It usually appears in corners or other areas where circulation is poor. Once established, green algae can grow explosively and turn your pool water green and cloudy overnight.

**Solution:** Use BioGuard® Burn Out Extreme® to remove algae nutrients, then BioGuard® MSA™ II. Follow label directions carefully.

**Mustard Algae**

Another common algae in pools is yellow-brown or "mustard" coloured algae. It brushes off the pool walls easily, but quickly returns. It often grows in shady areas, or areas with little circulation. It resists chlorine and shock treatment.

## FAQ's.

**Black Spot Algae**

A very resistant form of algae that clings to and grows into the pool's surface and floor.

Black spot algae is so named because it forms clumps or algae spots. The longer black algae is present the more treatment will be required - and the longer it will take to remove. If you have a fibreglass pool with black spots, see your BioGuard® Approved Retailer as this could indicate a different problem.

**Solution:** Brush algae vigorously and use BioGuard® MSA™ II. Treat black algae as soon as it is detected.

**Pink Slime**

Pink slime is actually caused by bacteria, not algae. It shows up around ladders, pool lights, skimmers and areas with poor circulation before becoming visible around pool walls.

**Solution:** Brush affected areas and treat with BioGuard® BurnOut Extreme® and BioGuard® Polygard™. To find out more, visit your local BioGuard® Approved Retailer.

**Preventing Algae**

Prevention is the best cure for all types of algae. By following your BioGuard® personalised program and by brushing walls regularly, algae will have a difficult time taking hold. In salt pools, use BioGuard® Salt Pool Protector™ and your recommended maintenance program. Regular water analysis will also help to detect problems before they get out of hand.



**Pool Fact:** The chlorine smell is caused by chloramines in the water, not chlorine. Applying BioGuard Lite® once a week will remove chloramines and the smell.

## FAQ's.

### 2. Why is my water cloudy?

If your pool water is cloudy, there are several things that could be wrong:

#### 1. Check your filtration and circulation system.

- Has the filter been chemically cleaned with BioGuard® Filter Brite™ recently?
- Is there enough sand or DE (Diatomaceous Earth) in the filter?
- Is the filter working properly?
- Does the filter need to be backwashed?

If the flow isn't strong enough to push your hand away, you may be having problems with your filter. Service may be required for equipment problems. Ensure your filter is running at least 12 hours a day during the swimming season. BioGuard® Polysheen™ Plus and BioGuard® Super Clear Clarifying Tablets™ can help bring the sparkle back to the water, whilst BioGuard® Quick Clear™ can help aid the filter.



#### 2. Check the chlorine level.

- Is the free chlorine level under 1.0ppm?
- Are chloramines present (can you smell a very strong chlorine smell)?

The free chlorine level in the pool should be maintained between 1.0 and 3.0ppm. BioGuard® Lite® assists your sanitiser in preventing bacteria and algae and removes organic waste build up, which will help maintain a free chlorine level and reduce incidences of cloudy water.



#### 3. Check the pH and Total Alkalinity (TA).

- Is the pH too high?
- Is the Total Alkalinity within range?

The pH needs to be within the range of 7.4 to 7.6, and the TA between 80 and 125ppm for concrete and tiled pools, and between 125 and 150ppm for vinyl, painted and fibreglass pools. If the water is out of these ranges, it can cause cloudiness and build up of scale. Your BioGuard® Approved Retailer can test all of these elements and make recommendations on how to keep these in balance.

## FAQ's.

#### 4. Check for Algae.

- Is Algae visible?
- Are the walls, stairs or fixtures sticky or slimy?

Algae infestation, even in its early stages, can cause cloudy water. Ensure you add a preventative dose of algacide weekly, such as MSA™ II and Back-Up® II.



## FAQ's.

### 3. Has my pool got scale?

Scale is a rough sandpaper-like deposit, which coats the walls of your pool and clogs pipes, filters and heaters. Ensuring your water is correctly balanced, and using BioGuard® Scale Inhibitor™ or BioGuard® Salt Pool Stain and Scale Control™ can help prevent and reduce scale formation and protect your equipment.



### 4. Why is my pool water discoloured?

If your pool water is discoloured yet clear, it is often caused by metals dissolved in the water. Water can turn green, reddish-brown, grey or even coffee-brown in the presence of metals such as manganese, copper or iron. BioGuard® Pool Magnet™ and BioGuard® Quick Clear™ can help with metal problems. See your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for metal testing and recommendations.



**Pool Fact: 1kg of BioGuard® Power Chlor® = 20L of liquid chlorine.**

## Handling chemicals.

### Do's

- **Always** read the product label and follow directions carefully. They contain important information about proper application, handling and storage of the product you're using. Used correctly, pool water chemicals safeguard the health of your entire family. If they're mishandled, they can be hazardous, or dangerous.
- **Contact** your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for advice for the correct disposal of unused chemicals and containers.
- **Always** store chemical products safely with the containers tightly closed and out of reach of children. Ensure they are stored in a cool, dry, well ventilated place, away from other household, garden and petroleum products.
- **Always** add maintenance products to the pool water separately and in different areas.
- **Take care** when putting product into the pool on windy days to prevent product blowing into your eyes, mouth, skin or onto clothes.
- **Clean up** any spills promptly. Small amounts can be hosed into the pool, contact your BioGuard® Approved Retailer for advice on larger spills.

### Don'ts

- **Never** interchange measuring scoops between products.
- **Never** store liquids near other chemicals, petrol or metallic objects.
- **Never** mix chemicals of any kind together, and never smoke near the chemicals. An uncontrolled reaction such as fuming, fire or explosion could occur.
- **Never** add water directly to chemicals – always add the chemical to large amounts of water.
- **Never** inhale the fumes of the products.

In the event of accidental contact, or if the product is swallowed, follow the advice on the label, and call your doctor and/or the Poisons Information Centre [AU] 13 11 26, or [NZ] 0800 764 766.

## BioGuard® SPA.



BioGuard® has a comprehensive range of Spa products, specifically designed with your unique needs in mind. You can pick up a guide from one of our BioGuard® Approved Retailers.



Your local BioGuard® Approved Retailer:

AU **1300 313 414**  
NZ **0508 313 414**  
[www.bioguard.com](http://www.bioguard.com)

8000 5961 - 0708

