

My pool has gone cloudy...

A cloudy pool is generally a sign of low chlorine levels or poor filtration. Before taking a water sample to the shop ensure that your filtration system is functioning correctly.

Carry out the following checks:

1. Ensure that your water level is correct.
2. Clean out your skimmer and pump baskets.
3. For a sand filter, do a backwash. If you have a cartridge filter, clean the filter elements. For additional information on how to clean your filter, please refer to "How to clean your filter".
4. Check that your salt water chlorinator or liquid chlorine feeder is on, functioning normally, and that the timer is set correctly.

Many factors can lead to cloudy water; here are some solutions to the more common causes:

Hot weather and **heavy use** can result in a drop in chlorine levels and can lead to a pool becoming cloudy. During heat waves or heavy pool usage, test your water daily. If chlorine levels are not being sustained, consider increasing run times or manually 'boosting' chlorine levels with liquid or granular chlorine.

Poor Filtration can be a direct cause of cloudy water. Your filter is designed to physically remove any debris and contaminants from the water. Due to age or malfunction, occasionally filters are no longer able to contain the debris, resulting in a gradual reduction in water quality. If this is the case you may find that you have persistent cloudy water regardless of correct water balance. If you suspect that you have poor filtration, please contact The Poolstore on 95831470.

Failing paint surfaces can lead to cloudy water when a pool is in use. As pool paint ages it can become chalky and literally begin to rub off on your hands and feet. When in heavy use, this rubbing of the paint surface can result in a pool becoming increasingly cloudy. This type of cloud will generally filter out when usage reduces. There is little that can be done to prevent this other than repainting the pool.

Storm runoff is a common cause of cloudy pool water. This problem usually presents as a brown colour in the water. Depending on the severity of the problem, flocking the pool may be the best solution. It is important to deal with this problem quickly in order to prevent the dirty water contaminating your filter. Should this problem be unmanageable, it may be necessary to drain the pool.