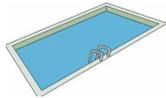




Painting Swimming Pools

Pool Type	Current System	New System
Fibreglass	Unpainted Or Epoxy	Epoxy



Painting a pool is a task not to be taken lightly. It is an area many paint manufacturers and retailers shy away from because of problems that can occur. The successful painting of a pool is dependent almost entirely on the instructions being adhered to religiously.

PREPARATION: *Due to the variety of Fibre-glass pool construction, many fibre-glass pools gradually deteriorate & weaken because of moisture penetrating into the fibre-glass structure. Sometimes osmosis based defects occur in the form of blisters. Check with your supplier for detailed repair details prior to painting. Due to fibreglass being such a doubtful surface, painting of fibre-glass is done entirely at customer's own risk.*

First you must ensure the coating is a 2 pack epoxy. Refer to the 656 Epoxy Pool Paint data sheet for a simple test to differentiate between 2 pack epoxy / urethane finishes and Chlorinated Rubber finishes. Only proceed with this project guide if the existing finish is a pack two pack epoxy or two pack urethane.

Ensure the existing paint or gelcoat surface is sound. Remove any peeling or flaking paint. Check other areas for signs of peeling or de-lamination. Areas of apparently sound paint should also be checked using an adhesion test to ensure the existing paint is sound. Small damaged areas may be repaired with 690 LV Epoxy Sheathing Resin. Exposure of the glass fibre of the laminate or cracking can indicate severe structural problems may have occurred or are imminent. Professional advice should be sought.

Many substances can be deposited on the walls and floor of a pool over years of use. This step is designed to remove contaminants such as suntan lotions, body fats, oils, greases and the like. Wash the surface with 684 Super Wash using a stiff brush or broom. 684 Super Wash should be mixed 500mls into 20 litres of fresh water for general cleaning. Mix 1:1 with water for heavy deposits of oily or greasy material. Wash 2 - 3 square metres at a time and rinse thoroughly with fresh water as you go. Do not allow the Super Wash to dry on surface.

The following step removes deposited salts and chemicals on the pools surfaces. The surface should be acid etched with a dilute solution of Hydrochloric Acid.

- Ensure you are wearing the correct protective clothing. Rubber Boots, Rubber Gloves and goggles. It is also a good idea to be wearing a long sleeved shirt and trousers.
- Mix the acid solution in a plastic bucket (not metal) and always add the acid to the water NOT the water to the acid. Add 1 part by volume of acid to 2 parts of water.
- Work on a small area at a time, 2 – 3 m² is ideal. Apply the acid using a plastic watering can and scrub the surface using a stiff bristled nylon scrubbing brush or broom. When the bubbling reaction stops immediately rinse the area with fresh water. Do not allow the acid to dry on the surface as this will adversely affect the coating.

Neutralise the acid washed surface with a mixture of 1kg Acid Neutraliser into 10 litres fresh water. This will prevent residual acid from interfering with the coating being applied.

Rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove any residue of the acid neutraliser. Allow 2 - 3 days at a minimum of 20°C to dry prior to painting (warm, sunny days).

Thoroughly abrade or sand the entire surface to provide key for new coating to adhere. (Surface should have visible scratch marks). Sand paper with 20 – 40 grit is recommended. Failure to properly abrade the surface before painting may





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lead to premature failure of the new coating system. If using an angle grinder take care not to “dig into” the existing surface. Do not expose glass fibre reinforcing. If this occurs then 690 LV Epoxy Sheathing Resin may be used to repair the damage before painting.

Ensure that all dust from the sanding process is vacuumed up before proceeding

To test whether the surface is dry enough to paint, tape a small square of clear plastic to centre of floor of pool early a.m. & check at noon. If condensation has formed under plastic, further drying is required.

PAINTING: Painting should be done during the warmer months, this will assist with curing. Check forecast for a period when no rain is predicted or heavy dew is unlikely. NOTE: If the freshly painted pool is spotted by rain or dew the surface may become bloomed (cloudy looking). If this occurs, thoroughly abrade surface prior to continuing with next coat. If water collects in the bottom of the pool before the coating is fully cured, premature failure may result.

Early morning to 11am is the best time of day to paint, as long as the surface is totally dry and the surface temperature is above 10°C. Ideal application temperature 15-30°C. Painting when the temperature is outside this range may damage the coating. Avoid painting in direct sunlight as this will cause paint to dry too quickly. Do not paint if temperature is likely to drop below 10°C during curing period. Remember in cold conditions surface temperatures are likely to be lower than ambient temperatures.

656 Epoxy Pool Paint is a two part product. The mix ratio is 4 parts of Part A and 1 part of Part B. A 4 litre can of Part A contains 3.2 litres and when mixed with the Part B (which contains 800ml) the result is 4 litres of paint. It is best to mix full cans to avoid mixing errors. We stock a range of graduated mixing cups if you plan on mixing smaller amounts **but we do not recommend this practice**. When mixed the resultant product has a pot life of 4 hours (at 25°C) so only mix what you can use in 1 to 2 hours. Keep the mixed paint in a cool shaded area and out of direct sun or pot life will be dramatically shortened. Add the Part B to the Part A and mix thoroughly with a wide flat bladed stirrer or “potato masher” type mixed. Ensure that you have mixed the paint thoroughly as failure to do so may result in drying problems.

Always apply 656 Epoxy Pool Paint at the recommended application rate. Do not apply thin coats as this will result in premature wear of the coating. **We have calculated the amount of paint you need for the measurements of your pool. If you have a significant quantity left over then you have not put enough on the surface.**

Sweep or vacuum the pool to remove any dust or dirt.

Apply 1st coat 656 Epoxy Pool Paint.

Apply second coat when the surface is firm to walk on. This is usually a minimum of 8 hours. If more than 24 hours passes after the application of the first coat then the first coat should be sanded to provide a key and all sanding dust removed before applying the 2nd coat 656 Epoxy Pool Paint.

A 3rd coat of 656 Epoxy Pool Paint should be applied for badly worn or repaired pools to ensure a good film build over worn/repared areas.

Do not fill the pool until paint is fully cured. This will take 7 days during summer and up to 14 days during colder conditions. Avoid leaving pool empty for extended periods as chalking of paint surface may occur. During the first month of the pool being filled the paint surface is particularly sensitive to strong doses of chemical. It is better to bring the chemical levels up gradually.

Remember to read ALL our literature on the painting of swimming pools including the general guide, the data sheet on the Epoxy Pool Paint and most importantly the guide to caring for your pool after painting.