



Letts Swimming Pools

Winterising Your Pool and Equipment

Usually by October, most pool owners decide to finish using the pool, and there are various duties to carry out to ensure the pool and equipment are in good condition for next season. The easiest method is to telephone Letts Swimming Pools or your local agent and ask them to carry out this service, or if you have time one weekend, the following procedures should be completed.

1. Remove the steps and diving board.
2. Vacuum pool to ensure all debris is removed, as this will reduce the amount of chlorine used and if any leaves are left on the bottom of a liner pool for a long period they can stain the liner.
3. Ensure over-flow holes in the skimmers are not blocked, to ensure rain water does not increase the pool water level.
4. Lower the pH to 7.0 – 7.2.
5. Add a large dose of stabilised chlorine increasing the level in the liner pools to no more than 5 mg/l (ppm). Concrete tiled pools can be raised slightly higher, which means you can leave it for a longer period of time before it is necessary to check the level of chlorine again.
6. Add a winter or multi-function algicide.
7. Move the rolled up summer cover to one side ensuring it has a solar protection sheet on it, as it will considerably lengthen the life of the cover. If the cover is not too heavy to move and there is a side building nearby where it will not be eaten or nested in by mice or rats, then this is a preferred option.
8. Fit the winter cover, and tighten the straps as necessary.
9. If available top up the Chlorinator, and turn valve to the highest setting. This should not over chlorinate, as the filter pump will only be running for short periods.
10. If there is an outdoor heat pump, this must be bypassed and drained. The use of a bypass valve arrangement will allow the filter pump to be run without water passing through the heat pump
11. Set the time clock so the filter pump only comes on for 4 x half-hour periods every 24 hours. (i.e. 6am, 12, 6pm, 12).
12. Ensure frost thermostat is working, then set it to between 1°C and 2°C. If you find the pump is coming on when it's not down to the suggested temperature, then turn the thermostat down.
13. If available place bricks or timber around the edge of the cover, as, even though the cover is tight to the copings, debris may still blow underneath.

Maintenance during winter.

Very little chlorine is required during the winter as once the water is below 5°C (41°F) algae and bacteria will not grow, this factor is also helped as very little light is allowed through the winter cover. Although you are strongly advised to:

1. Peel back a corner of the winter cover once a month and test the water for chlorine. If necessary add the appropriate amount of chlorine, ensuring it is mixed up well in a bucket of warm water before being added and also the filter pump is running for at least 1 – 2 hours.
2. The filter should be thoroughly backwashed half way through the winter period.
3. If you have a Chlorinator this should be kept topped up through the winter.

These instructions are a guidance only when addressing specific problem(s) with your pool. Without knowledge of all the variables in a given situation we cannot take responsibility for any damage that may be caused by non-Letts personnel when carrying out these tasks.

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