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Pool Maintenance Best Practices

- Make sure that you keep the skimmer basket emptied on a regular basis. If you allow the skimmer basket to become clogged your pump will no longer work and this can shorten the overall life of the pump.
- There is also a basket in front of your pump that needs to be emptied. It should be emptied whenever it gets dirty. This is a catch all basket to prevent leaves and debris from entering the moving parts of your pool pump. You may need to check it on a monthly basis.
- If your pump and skimmer baskets become cracked or brittle you should replace them. They are both designed to keep debris out of your pump and filter and should be kept in good working order.
- All pools develop a water/scum line around the pool. This line is caused by oils and dirt in the water and builds up the most inside your skimmer. You should frequently clean this dirt off the pool because it will make it much easier to remove and you will be more effective in removing the dirt. Off the Wall by BioGuard is a key ingredient for removing this ugly line from your pool.
- Brushing your pool on a regular basis is one of the easiest and most effective ways to make sure your pool is always sparkling clean. This helps your BioGuard chemicals and filter operate at peak performance.
- You should have the water tested at our stores on a monthly basis. We treat this as a crucial step in keeping your pool clean and beautiful and we will gladly test your water for FREE as often as you would like us to.

- At home testing is another simple yet vital ingredient in proper pool care. We recommend testing the water once a week with test strips. You simply dip the strip in your pool, wait 15 minutes, and match the colors on the back of the bottle with the results on the strip. If the colors are all in the proper ranges then your pool is in good shape. If the colors indicate the pool is out of balance just bring in a water sample to your nearest store at your earliest convenience. Our staff will be able to recommend to you the best chemical maintenance program for your pool environment. There are many options and we will help you find the one to address your particular situation.
- You should run your pump and filter at least 12 hours a day during the summer. We recommend the time period from 8 AM to 8 PM. If your pool is cloudy or you are fighting an algae problem then you should run the pump 24 hours a day.
- Vacuum the pool whenever needed to remove debris from the bottom of the pool.
- Backwash the pool as needed to keep the filter working properly.