

# PoolCrete Start-Up Guide

January 2017

Page 1 of 2

An important step-by-step guide to the chemical treatment of pools after **PoolCrete** application.

## TEST THE SOURCE WATER

---

1. Before adding any water to the pool make sure you know the quality of the water. Test for pH, Total Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and Metals. These tests can be done by any reputable pool shop or pool service provider. This is particularly important if borehole water is used. Irrespective if there are traces of metal present in the water or not, a metal remover should be added to the pool water while the pool is filling with water.
2. The water quality varies from area to area within the same town/city and rarely meets the requirements needed for a chemically well balanced pool.

## FILLING THE POOL

---

1. Do not walk around the inside of a newly plastered pool whilst it is empty in order to avoid dirt retention or damage to the surface.
2. Fill the pool at the deep end. We recommend the use of a deflector on the end of the hosepipe. Usually, an old towel or thick cloth tied over the spout end of the hosepipe suffices as this balloons and hence diffuses the water pressure. The water then creeps up over the still soft **PoolCrete** preventing run marks. It also prevents the hosepipe 'whipping' against the new surface and damaging it.
3. Water should not be sprayed or allowed to run over newly plastered surfaces at high pressure. Mist spray exposed walls and stair areas at regular intervals (preferably every hour) while the pool is filling as **PoolCrete** dries intermittently and hairline cracks may occur.
4. Fill the pool in one go to avoid a water-ring from forming. Do not stop the water flow until the pool is properly filled to the middle of the skimmer (weir) or tile line. Avoid mud splashes or dirty water. Ideally the pool should be filled within approximately 36 hours after the application of the **PoolCrete**.
5. Whilst the water is filling but before it reaches the curved area where the floor meets the wall add a dosage of about 2kg Calcium Chloride in flake form (dissolved in water) to the existing water mass. Source water with a low Calcium Hardness will draw the required calcium from the **PoolCrete** and cause early etching.

## ONCE THE POOL IS FILLED

---

### Day 1

Once the pool is properly filled check the calcium Hardness again and make the necessary adjustments to achieve a Calcium Hardness level of between 200ppm to 275ppm.

### Day 2 to day 21

1. Start filter. Do not introduce an automatic cleaner to the pool for 3 weeks. During this period use the pool brush only to remove dust and debris. Brush the **PoolCrete** surface with a soft pool brush and backwash at least once a day. Maintain a pH of 7.8. This will aid the curing and hardening process of the **PoolCrete**. The pH of untreated pool water will rise and finally stabilize at about 8.3. (At this point it becomes scale forming)
2. Dose only with small quantities of unstabilised granular dry chlorine, or unstabilised liquid chlorine during this period.

### Day 22

1. After 3 weeks check the pH and add only a quarter cup of hydrochloric acid (per 70,000 litre pool) dissolved in a plastic bucket of the pool water in any single 6 hour period with the filter running. Periodically dose until pH reads between 7.4 and 7.6. It could take over a week before the pH is corrected. Never use sulphuric acid in the pool.
2. Follow the chlorine manufacturer's instructions for dosing from now on.
3. Stabilise the water if desired. Dissolve the stabiliser granules in boiling water before adding to the pool.
4. If a salt water chlorinator is installed, add salt to the water and switch on the chlorinator. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions.
5. The automatic pool cleaner can now be connected.

Cemcrete provides a comprehensive technical service based on over 3 decades of experience in the field of surface applications and cement technology. Cemcrete believes, to the best of its knowledge, that the information contained herein is true and accurate at the date of issuance and is subject to change without prior notice. For further clarification of these instructions, contact Cemcrete.

# PoolCrete Start-Up Guide

January 2017

Page 2 of 2

## Important information

---

Always follow the chemical manufacturers' instructions when adding chemicals to the pool. Chemicals should be added in a controlled way as it is not advisable to overdose with any chemical hoping that the effect will last two weeks rather than one.

Overdosing can damage the **PoolCrete** surface. Overdosing with acid causes etching of the **PoolCrete** surface and destroys total alkalinity. Always dilute acid before dosing, and add while the pump is running to ensure an even distribution.

Overdosing with calcium hypochlorite (dry granular chlorine) causes scale build-up and high pH.

Overdosing with trichloroisocyanuric acid (stabilised chlorine) causes a drop in pH and etching of the **PoolCrete** surface as it neutralises itself by leeching the calcium from the **PoolCrete**. Keep chlorine pills or granules well away from the immediate edge of the pool. Also keep out of direct jet of the aim flow and away from or near the weir.

The use of a gas chlorinator is not recommend. Due to the chemical reactions that take place where the gas is introduced to the water, HCL is formed which causes etching of the **PoolCrete** surface and results in serious staining.

Cemcrete provides a comprehensive technical service based on over 3 decades of experience in the field of surface applications and cement technology. Cemcrete believes, to the best of its knowledge, that the information contained herein is true and accurate at the date of issuance and is subject to change without prior notice. For further clarification of these instructions, contact Cemcrete.

---

**Johannesburg Head Office**

8 Telford Street  
Industria  
011 474 2415

**Johannesburg Showroom**

227 Jan Smuts Avenue  
Parktown North  
011 447 3149

**Centurion Showroom & Warehouse**

15 Coachmen's Park  
26 Jakaranda Street, Centurion  
012 653 6808

**Cape Town Showroom & Warehouse**

Eagle Park, cnr Bosmansdam &  
Omuramba Roads, Montague Gardens  
021 555 1034