



Swimming Pool Cover

User Manual

RETAIN THIS MANUAL FOR FUTURE REFERENCE
PLEASE READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY BEFORE USE

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Safety

- This cover is to be used only in a pool area that is entirely fenced in with a gate that locks.
- Children must be supervised when playing in the pool. This cover is not to be sat or walked on. It is not designed to support the weight of children or adults.
- The cover must be completely removed before using the pool so that no one in the pool is out of sight or in danger of being trapped under the cover.
- Standing water on top of the cover must be removed. An unsupervised child could drown in the water collected on top of the cover.
- The cover must be properly secured at all times so that it does not present a hazard.
- This cover is not considered a "safety cover."
- Do not allow access to the pool under the cover.

Set-Up

Fitting a solar cover is made simple by carefully following these cutting instructions. Waiting two to three weeks before the final trim allows for packing folds to flatten out and for the cover to settle. Remember that it is possible for a solar cover to lose up to 10% in length within the first couple of weeks. Therefore be careful not to cut too much off the cover even though it may initially seem too large.

To get started, remove the solar cover from the box and lay it next to the swimming pool. Carefully unfold and **spread over the pool surface, bubble side down**, smooth side up. If possible, leave the cover in the sun for a couple of hours to allow the solar cover time to 'relax'.

Next, smooth the cover over the pool surface, getting rid of wrinkles and air pockets. Smoothing the cover with a pool broom helps the process. Once flattened, begin trimming with a pair of sharp scissors. Cut a 'flap' or 'tongue' in the cover for access to the skimmer box.

It is recommended that the cover be slightly larger than the pool so that it 'turns up' at the edges. This will create a bowl effect within the pool so that leaves and debris will stay on top of the solar cover rather than fall into the water.

Leaves can be brushed or blown into the skimmer box before taking the solar cover off. Allow 10-15cm of extra material on the perimeter of the cover on the first trim, cutting the solar cover so that it sits just under the pool coping.

Have someone assist you in holding the solar cover taut during trimming. Continually check both in front and in back of where you are working to assure that the cover does not shift. Once you have completed the initial trimming, allow the solar cover to 'relax.' Wait two to three weeks to decide if further trimming is necessary.

Maintenance and Storage

A pool cover is exposed to harsh conditions caused by the sun's UV (Ultra Violet) rays and chemicals such as chlorine. Heat will accelerate the impact of chemicals and UV rays. Bubble covers have varied viability and will last between 50 and 125% of their expected life span depending on the quality of care administered.

The environment in a pool is created by:

1. The amount of UV rays produced by the sun.
2. The volume of swimming pool chemicals (such as chlorine) in the pool water.
3. The chemistry parameters that balance the pool water (pH) Potenz Hydrogen, (CH) Calcium Hardness, (TA) Total Alkalinity.
4. The heat of the pool water (while the cover is on the pool).
5. The heat generated in the pool cover (while the cover is off the pool water).
6. A combination of all the above factors.

A swimming pool with a high volume of chlorine/unbalanced water will reduce the lifespan of a bubble cover and speed up the process of degradation.

By following a few simple rules of solar pool cover maintenance, you can ensure that your solar pool cover has a longer service life. Here are a few tips:

- **Always follow the written recommendations in the manufacturer's instructions.**

Many people throw these instructions aside without ever looking at them. Reading and following the instructions will greatly increase the lifespan of your solar pool cover.

- **Maintain ideal chlorine levels.**

Remove the solar cover from the pool when you chlorinate or shock the pool water to prevent chemical damage. The manufacturer's warranty does not cover chemical damage.

- **Ensure the pool water is balanced.**

- a. **Potenz Hydrogen (pH)** Ideal 7.4 range: 7.2 to 7.8. If the pH is too low the water becomes very corrosive. If the pH is too high scaling will occur.
- b. **Calcium Hardness (CH)** Ideal 275 range: 150 - 400 ppm. If the CH is too low the water becomes corrosive. If the CH is too high scaling will occur.

- c. **Total Alkalinity (TA)** Ideal 100 range: 80 - 120 ppm. If the TA is too low the water becomes corrosive. If the TA is too high scaling will occur.

Do not allow the FC (Free Chlorine) level to exceed 4.0 ppm (4 parts chlorine to 1 million parts water, which is 4 ml per litre) the ideal 2.0 ppm range is between 1.0-3.0 ppm. The ideal CC (Combined Chlorine) level is 0 ppm and should not exceed 0.2 ppm.

These levels provide a guideline of recommended ranges for safe bathing. Consult your water treatment supplier for further information.

When a pool is "shock dosed" with shock chlorine, remove the cover from the water surface and replace it only when the chlorine level is back to normal.

High chlorine levels and unbalanced pool water will increase the corrosive effect on the solar pool cover and lead to premature aging, bleaching, discoloration and crystallization of chemical residue on the top surface of the solar cover.

Chlorine in its natural state is a gas; however, when it is added to pool water (solid, liquid or gas) it automatically reverts back to its natural state (a gas) and rises through the water then dissipates into the atmosphere through evaporation. When a solar cover is installed on a pool this evaporation does not occur; the chlorine re-circulates through the water, a movement created by the pool pump and filtration equipment. This action sanitizes the water.

The volume of chlorine in the pool will increase when the solar cover is installed and the water will yield higher test results. To avoid a higher concentration of chlorine the level and input of chlorine must be reduced to between 30 and 60%. To achieve this, turn down the controls on your automatic dispenser or salt-water chlorinator. If chemicals are added manually, reduce the quantity to obtain the correct chlorine levels and water balance.

Ensure your pump and filtration system are operating during the hottest part of the day which is between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm while a solar or energy absorbing cover is installed on a pool. The sun heats the water penetrating through the solar cover or absorbs heat through heat retention solar covers. Warmer water rises together with the chlorine gas while the water beneath remains cool. The heat needs to be relieved so that the chlorine begins moving throughout the water again. This process will mix and circulate the concentrated level of chlorine with warmer and cooler water and keep a harmful build-up of chlorine away from the solar cover. Adhering to these guidelines will help prolong the life of the solar cover.

Protecting the Cover

If the cover is being used on a pool that has solar heating, temperatures should not exceed 40 degrees Celsius. Higher temperatures will reduce the life of the material. When not using the cover, it should be kept out of direct sunlight. Overheating the cover can damage the air cells. The protective white plastic sheeting that is provided with your cover or a plain white fabric should be used to protect the cover when not in use. Removing the cover from direct sunlight will keep it from being exposed to damaging UV rays. The manufacturer's warranty does not cover damage from overheating.

All covers must be stored in a shaded area out of direct sunlight. Never leave the cover exposed to direct sunlight when folded or wound onto a roller. The heat generated by the sun will be magnified many times, causing the degradation of the material. The damage may not be immediate but a slow process of degradation will take place.

Non-compliance with these guidelines will result in a very high concentration of heat inside the cover material. This heat will cause the air in the bubbles to expand which will force the laminated areas apart and create rows of larger less effective bubbles. This process will not reduce the life-span of the cover unless it occurs on a continual basis. Excessive heat can cause the cover to become molten and weld itself together rendering the cover useless. Lines of degraded bubbles across the pool cover will cause the bubble cover to shrink.

Light-coloured opaque reflective storage covers that will help protect the bubble cover against the harmful rays and heat of the sun can be purchased from most pool cover fabricators and suppliers.

Storing the Cover

Solar cover rollers facilitate the handling of a solar pool cover and help prevent accidental damage and tearing. Without a roller, at least two people are needed to carefully install and remove a solar cover.

The optimum way to store a solar cover is with the use of a pool cover roller. The cover is attached to the roller with straps and can be rolled up when not in use. Most rollers have wheels for easy transfer to storage areas. The solar cover roller is an accessory that facilitates the transfer and storage of the roller but it is not essential for the successful use of the solar cover. Most solar covers come with a large white bag for storage. It is recommended that the white over cover (supplied with the roller) be used every time the cover is rolled up. Even for a brief swim of ten minutes, the protective over cover must be used or damage will result.

A solar cover should be stored in a covered and protected area with a temperature below 45 degrees Celsius.

When storing your solar cover for the winter, it is recommended that it be cleaned with a swimming pool cover cleaner. Do not expose the solar cover to winter weather unless it is on the pool and in use.

To avoid damage, carefully fold in any flaps or appendages on the cover before rolling it up. This will avoid undue pressure on the cover and allow it to move unrestricted.

Before storing the cover for a period of over 24-hours, wash on both sides with fresh water to prevent chlorine residue from damaging the cover.

When placing the cover onto the pool it must be rolled out slightly with one corner folded over onto itself to create a bow effect. The opposite corner must then be picked up in order to position it for proper placement on the pool.

Cleaning the Cover

The solar cover will prevent dust and debris from falling into the pool. Most of the dust and debris collected on top of the cover will be blown away by the wind. Without the cover debris will get waterlogged and sink into the pool. Airborne dust and debris can be swept to one area of the cover and extracted. Debris can be hosed to the skimmer basket when the pool filtration system is running.

It is recommended that a solar cover cleaner be used to clean the cover. The solar cover should be wet when applying the cleaner. Using a telescoping pole and pool brush is the fastest and most efficient way to scrub the cover clean. The cover can be in place over the pool during the cleaning process. After sufficiently cleaning the cover, rinse with a hose and direct dirty water to the skimmer. The cover can also be cleaned by removing it from the pool and spreading it out on the lawn. Placing the cover on a slope will facilitate a thorough rinsing. For a quick cleaning, simply hose off with water while the cover is in place on the pool. Hose the debris into the skimmer or into a corner where it can be removed with a leaf net. Be sure to allow sufficient time for drying before rolling the cover up.

Treating the Cover with Care

To prevent damage to your solar cover, do not drag it over pool decks, coping, or any sharp, ragged surfaces. It is important to place the cover roller as close to the end of the pool as possible to avoid such areas. On pools with curved ends, there is less drag when the roller sits over the widest part of the pool.

Even with the best care, most solar covers will last for only a few years due to constant exposure to sunlight on the top of the cover and harsh pool chemicals on the underside. Nevertheless, the benefit of using a solar pool cover is well worth the cost even if it is replaced every few years. The savings from warming the water and preserving the heat will add up to hundreds of dollars per swimming season.



Some experts believe that the incorrect or prolonged use of almost any product may cause serious injury or death. To help reduce your risk of serious injury or death, refer to the information below. For more information, see www.datastreamserver.com/safety

- Consult all documentation, packaging and product labelling before use. Note that some products feature documentation available online. It is recommended to print and retain the documentation.
- Before each use, check the product for loose/broken/damaged/missing parts, wear or leaks (if applicable). Never use a product with loose/broken/damaged / missing parts, wear or leaks.
- Products must be inspected and serviced (if applicable) by a qualified technician every 6 months. This is based on average residential use by persons of average size and strength, and on a property of average metropolitan size. Use beyond these recommendations may require more frequent inspections / servicing.
- Ensure that all users of the product have completed a suitable industry recognised training course before being allowed access to the product.
- The product has been supplied by a general merchandise retailer that may not be familiar with your specific application or description of application. Be sure to attain third-party approval from a qualified specialist for your application before use, regardless of any assurances from the retailer or its representatives.
- This product is not intended for use where fail-safe operation is required. As with any product (for example, automobile, computer, toaster), there is the possibility of technical issues that may require the repair or replacement of parts, or the product itself. If the possibility of such failure and the associated time it may take to rectify could in any way inconvenience the user, business or employee, or financially affect the user, business or employee, then the product is not suitable for your requirements. This product is not intended for use where incorrect operation or a failure of any kind, including but not limited to, a condition requiring product return, replacement, parts replacement or service by a technician may cause financial loss, loss of employee time or an inconvenience requiring compensation.
- If this product has been purchased in error when considering the information presented here, contact the retailer directly for details of their returns policy, if required.



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