



What is Cyanuric Acid?

Cyanuric Acid

Cyanuric acid acts as a "stabilizer" that helps chlorine hold up better when exposed to ultraviolet (UV) rays. You can think of it as slowing the process of sunlight breaking down the chlorine — like a sunscreen for your pool.

Maintain an ideal level of cyanuric acid, 30 to 50 ppm (mg/L), to prevent rapid chlorine loss.

Balancing cyanuric acid with other chemicals

If the cyanuric acid level is too low, you may need to add more. Be aware that cyanuric acid will also reduce your water's pH levels, so you may have to increase the pH as well.

Note also that too much cyanuric acid will reduce the beneficial effect of your chlorine, leading to stains or cloudy water — and some chlorine compounds already contain some cyanuric acid. If you are using dichlor (stabilised chlorine granules) or trichlor (maxi & Mini Tablets) as your primary chlorine sanitizer, you are already introducing cyanuric acid along with the chlorine. If the cyanuric acid level in your pool or spa is too high, you will need to partially drain and refill with fresh water.

Maintenance

When you first fill your pool or spa, test the cyanuric acid level until you have added enough to reach the ideal range. After that, test cyanuric acid a minimum of once a month throughout the pool season. If you are using dichlor or trichlor, you will have to test cyanuric acid more frequently to ensure that the level has not exceeded the upper limit.

The most common way to decrease the amount of cyanuric acid is to drain and refill the pool. For example, if you drain and refill half of the pool water, you will decrease the cyanuric acid level by 50%.