

# Quick Tips - Water balance



## architectural pools

SPECIALIST SWIMMING POOL BUILDERS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL POOLS & RENOVATIONS TO EXISTING POOLS.

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**WARNING** - unbalanced pool water can be very damaging. Scale and corrosive conditions occur when pH, alkalinity, and calcium hardness are out of balance. Corrosive water etches into cement based pool surfaces and causes tile grout to dissolve. Etching can occur very quickly and is often undetected until severe signs of deterioration become obvious. Unfortunately, by this stage, you may then be faced with an expensive repair bill.

**Water balance** - is the term used to express the relationship between pH, Alkalinity and Hardness. It establishes the recommended parameters for water quality, depending on the particular chemical process being applied.

- Chlorine must be maintained between 1 and 3 ppm at all times.
- Check pH level and correct **weekly**.
- The correct pH range is 7.2 to 7.8.
- Increase pH by adding pH buffer and lower pH by adding hydrochloric acid.
- Check and correct Total Alkalinity and Hardness levels **fortnightly**.
- Concrete pools generally require an alkalinity of 80 to 120 parts per million.
- Raise alkalinity by adding pH buffer and lower alkalinity by adding hydrochloric acid.
- A calcium hardness level between 200 and 300 ppm is required for ionized pools, 100 and 150 ppm for chlorinated pools and 170 to 200 for salt water pools.
- Raise calcium levels by adding calcium chloride.