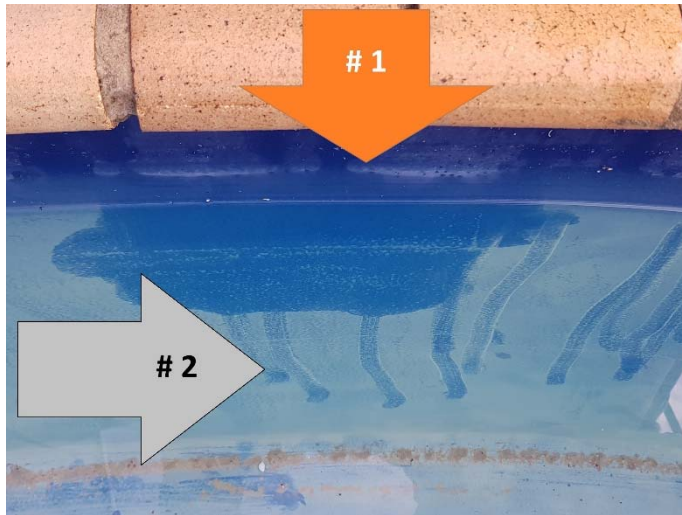


## INFO SHEET

*Performance Through  
Technology and Service*

### Does The Painted Pool Look Like This?



**Arrow 1** - Original colour above waterline.

**Arrow 2** – Lines - marks when you rub against the surface, with body or draw fingers across. Also, from cleaning robot.

**Arrow 3** – The surface after rubbing (hard) with the side of clenched fist on it. (or non-scratch pad)

Can be described with the following aspects (some or most may apply)

1. Was recently painted (like within 6 – 12 months).
2. Looked good for a while but noticed this in either autumn or springtime.
3. Saltwater chlorinated pool.
4. I don't do much (or no) pool chemistry management in the off season.
5. If I wipe my hands across the surface, they come up with "scum" and leave marks as in the image.
6. Above the water line, it MAY look "slightly faded".
7. The water going into the pool is mineralized, as often is the case. ("hard")
8. Had high Chlorine levels over time, greater than 5 ppm. (May bleach paint)

#### Probable causes:

1. The pool water balance has been allowed to get off spec and the LSI (Langelier Saturation Index) is or was outside of the range +0.3 to – 0.3. Ask pool shop to test for you and explain the results. (Or contact us). Best to have the LSI within this range ALWAYS, otherwise a film maybe deposited, or surface erosion may occur.
2. This was only seen in the change of seasons, when the water suddenly cools or warms up. When there is a quick temperature change, either way, the water buoyancy changes abruptly, and it may no longer be able to hold dissolved mineral content in suspension. It drops out almost overnight, leaving a white film.
3. The pool surface (above) water line looks faded. This is in the splash zone and thus any water containing "minerals" such as salt, will leave a hard residue on the surface, as the water part evaporates.
4. I have a salt pool with no issues, but after a few years I will see this. As you keep adding salt every now and then, the salt, which has variable impurities (it's NOT table salt, but industrial grade), and the impurities slowly builds up until the water can no longer keep them in suspension. They drop out as a surface film. More common generally in low price salt. It can also occur in chlorine (liquid or tablet) treated pools.
5. Don't have a salt pool but, use "Cal Hypo, which adds calcium to your pool and there will be a time when the calcium drops out as film, on the pool surfaces. This product should not be used in coloured plaster type, painted, fibreglass or vinyl liner pools. Best to use liquid chlorine, 12.5% instead, which does not create added calcium.

6. Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) are too high and when water loses buoyancy, they drop out of suspension, which can happen overnight, sometimes.

#### How to Fix:

1. Generally, you can start with the use of either (or both, a week apart) flocculating agents (**Alum** also known as Aluminium Sulfate, (Or **PAC**, that can be more effective than Alum) a coagulant to enlarge small particles so they drop to the bottom AND/OR **Synthetic Polymer** – also known as cationic charged liquid to attract negatively charged particles to be filtered out) and ask pool shop for advice and guidance. Follow directions **exactly** for best results. You may need to use both types sequentially, to remove the suspended material in the water including calcium (salts). Once pool water stabilized then broom - scrub surfaces to remove loose film and vacuum to waste. You may find removing the hard film above water line very difficult so can consider using a “scotch brite” pad and nonabrasive cleaner like Vim but proceed carefully so not to damage the surface. If this is not effective, then it’s probably a case of emptying the pool at some point and sanding the surface and then reapplying the paint etc. Call us **FIRST** to discuss this approach.
2. If the TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) is too high, it may be feasible to lower the pool water and replace it, thereby diluting the TDS. Consult pool shop to see if this option can be tried.

MORE details about the use of these **INFOSheet Addressing Cloudy Pool Water**  
See here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxvkjou2aN8> For a helpful video.

#### How to Prevent:

1. **The best answer is to keep the pool water ALWAYS in specification YEAR-ROUND. Once it gets out of specification then this situation can and often does arise and it’s troublesome to deal with or repair the damage caused.**

The pool water **LSI (Langelier Saturation Index)** should **always** be in the range -0.3 to to +0.3. Ask pool shop to test for you and explain the results. Above 0.3 is film forming (calcium and other mineral deposits) and below -0.3, is corrosive, meaning it will attack metal fittings, filtration and pumps and even concrete surfaces, seeking to get back to balance. REFER INFOSheet: **What is LSI or Langelier Saturation Index?**

2. Keep chlorine levels between 1- 3 ppm. (Short term “shocking” for a few hours, ok)



**You don’t want to see this on your fingers - skin. If you do, contact us for advice as soon as you see it. Don’t wait as becomes harder to attend to. It’s fixable.**

**Arrow 4 – blue paint pick up.  
Arrow 5 – insoluble compounds.**

