



*Performance Through
Technology and Service*

Date Issued	Dec 2024
Replaces	

INFO SHEET

Does Your Pool Leak?

If you think your pool is leaking, there is a straightforward way to be sure.

You need:

- A clean 20 L bucket
- Marker tape or waterproof pen
- Measuring tape
- The pool water filled to its normal level

Process: (1st step)

Fill pool water to normal level and turnoff pump system. (leave off)

- Place bucket on top or second step and fill it, till the water level in the bucket matches the outside pool water level. (or as close as you can).
- Make sure bucket is stable at this point and no ripples on pool surface.
- Mark (or measure) accurately water level in bucket and on pool wall surface nearby.
- Now wait 24 hours.
- At 24 hours, observe the water level in the bucket and on the pool wall and determine any difference in levels for each, by measuring.
- If the difference in water level in the bucket and on the pool, wall is the same, then the reduction in pool water and the bucket levels is primarily due to evaporation.
- **If the water drop in the pool is more than in the bucket, it's a pool leak somewhere in the pool (but not plumbing, as was turned off)**

2nd step – if needed

Fill pool water to normal level and once set up you will turn pump system on

- Place bucket on top or second step and fill it, till the water level in the bucket matches the outside pool water level. (or as close as you can).
- Make sure bucket is stable at this point and no ripples on pool surface.
- Mark (or measure) accurately water level in bucket and on pool wall surface nearby.

- **Now Turn Pump System – Water Features ON. Leave on for the 24 hours.**
- Now wait 24 hours.
- **After 24 hours, Turn Pump System – Water Features OFF.**
- At 24 hours, observe the water level in the bucket and on the pool wall and determine any difference in levels for each, by measuring.
- If the difference in water level in the bucket and on the pool wall is the same, then the reduction in pool water and the bucket levels is primarily due to evaporation. No leaks in pool or plumbing – water features
- **If the water drop in the pool is more than in the bucket, it's a pool plumbing leak somewhere, as the system was pressurized.**
- The leaks can be in the return side, at joints, bends or fittings etc. If with water features, are there leaks there (cracks fissures, in rock walls etc) Also check the pump and related filtration units.
- This 2nd option will allow you to determine if the leaks are in not in the pool but the plumbing side.

What's next?

- **Leaks.** You may want to consult specialist leak detection businesses to seek out more details via pressure testing, dye testing or hydrophone/listening testing. Your local pool shop may also have contacts or equipment to assist.
- **Notes**
In some locations (clay soils) then due to ground water issues, clays can swell and then shrink, as they dry out causing a pool with 40 – 50 tonnes of water within, to shift slightly, splitting or fracturing the pipes near the inlets – outlets.
Sandy areas (and with FG) pools may also be subject to ground water moving sand under the floors or wall backfilling, creating the same type of pool movement and same results as per clay soils.
Hydrostatic valves age and often fail over time creating some seepage or significant leaks. Whenever the pool is empty, do check for functionality. If in doubt consult your pool shop for replacement.