

## INFO SHEET

*Performance Through  
Technology and Service*

### Cloudy Pools - What Is A Flocculating Agent?

#### Does your pool look like this?

If so then the use of a flocculating agent, can be just the answer.



A flocculating agent (Floc) can be the fastest way to clear up your water when its full of fine particles and looks cloudy – murky. This can be algae (as per images) or the cloudy residues from the salt chlorinator (after the cool winter weather) when they drop out of solution. And you get this white film over everything below the water line.



From this (above) to this on the right.

The Flocculating agent is usually Aluminium Sulphate and comes in a bag as powder. Your pool shop will have it. (see below for one example)



For effective use you **MUST** follow the directions on the package carefully. Otherwise, you will fail to get a clear result. This allows the very fine particles to come together and be bigger and vacuumed up. Generally, it requires correcting the pH before adding the Floc. Then walk around and sprinkle into the pool. Broom the walls and steps etc. You can run pump on **recirculate** for an hour or so. Then let it do its magic

overnight. Then >>>>

Then with the SAND filter on WASTE \* turn on pump and slowly vacuum up the residue on the floor without disturbing it and creating clouds of material in the water. If you do, let it resettle and vacuum up again.

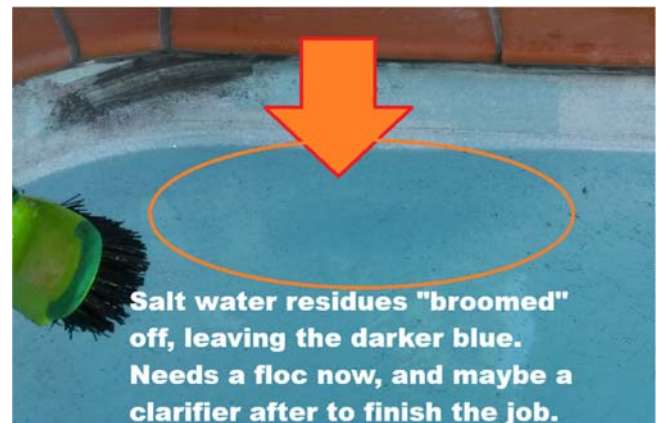


Refill water to normal level and run the filtration system as normal for a few days.'

If the pool is still a bit murky, then a CLARIFIER maybe used to finish the job (see image above – for some examples – from your pool shop)

Clarifiers work differently to the Flocculant, in that they use positive and negative charges to mop up any remaining small particles by clumping those together and letting your filter remove them as per normal functioning. You may need to back wash your filter once done, check pressure gauge to be sure.

Type of Filter	Particle Size Removed	Notes on Effectiveness
Sand	20 - 40 microns	Good
Cartridge	10 - 20 microns	Very Good
Diatomaceous Earth	1 – 5 microns	Superior



Salt water (and trichlor) pools can suffer from “dropout” which is generally either insoluble residue from the salt or Calcium buildup from extended use of trichlor. These residues create a film on the surface and also cloudy water, especially if the pool surface is disturbed (hand or body’s rubbing against it). If left it can be abrasive and damage the surfaces, leading to expensive repairs or re gel coating Fibreglass pools.

So, if seen follow the information above as per Floc and Clarifier usage.

Note that sand filters are not good at removing very fine particles and hence the water may often be cloudy. Therefore, a clarifier every now and then can be a good preventive measure.



\* With cartridge filter, open the filter and REMOVE the cartridges, re connect and then use as per above. When done re install the filters in the cartridge and reconnect the unit. Also check your cartridge instructions.