

Black Spot: A Method to Remove

To successfully remove black spots while your fiberglass (FG) (Painted) pool is full, first determine the cause. If it is **Black Algae**, scrub with a nylon brush and apply an algaecide/chlorine shock. If it is **Osmosis**, target-treat the spots using a specialised fiberglass stain remover.

Note that black spot algae has a tough upper skin which resists any algicide being very effective, more so in normal recommended pool concentration. (health issues and swimming).

If the algicide cannot penetrate through the skin, at best my bleach the colour out and possibly knock it back but not kill the roots. So, the algae is back quickly.

Step 1: Diagnose the Spot

- **Black Algae:** Feels slimy, can be scraped or brushed off, and usually grows in shaded, low-flow corners.
- **Osmosis / Cobalt Spotting:** Appears as hard, raised black spots or small blisters. These indicate water seeping through the gel coat and do *not* wipe or brush off.

Step 2: Treating Black Algae

If your pool has black algae, you must physically disrupt its waxy outer layer so the chemicals can work.

Balance the water: Take a water sample to your local pool shop and balance the pH (ideally 7.2–7.6).

1. **Brush aggressively:** Use a stiff nylon brush (avoid stainless steel on fiberglass – paint, to prevent scratching) to scrub the infected areas.
2. **Target the spots:** Turn off the pool pump so the water is completely still. Funnel granular chlorine or a concentrated [Black Spot Algaecide](#) directly onto the spots or rest a chlorine tablet directly on the spot.
3. **Allow to soak:** Leave the pump off for several hours or overnight so the chlorine sits on the algae.
4. **Repeat:** Brush the area daily until the spots vanish.

For tips on how to apply and dissolve chlorine granules safely without damaging your pool surface, refer to video below: (USA version but the info is helpful)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ooUZHD3uUos>

Note: you may need to run the filtration for 24 – 48 hrs to get all the algaecide in contact with all the algae.

If need repeat, to clear the pool of any remnants of algae and its spores to prevent reinfestation.

Also be sure there are no algae spores hiding in your pool filters.

Your pool shop should be able to offer more localised and specific help.