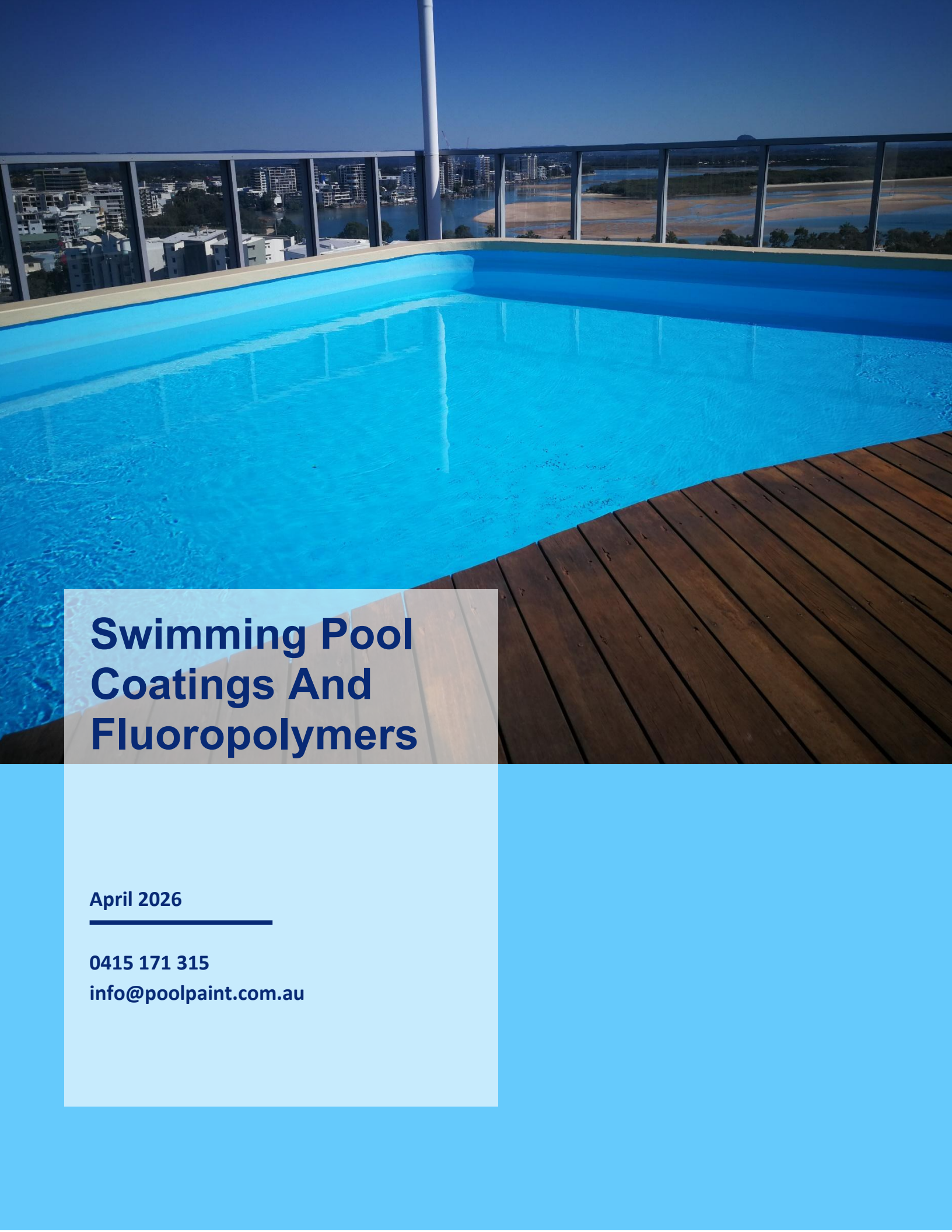




Swimming Pool Coatings And Fluoropolymers

April 2026

0415 171 315

info@poolpaint.com.au

Pool paints and what should I choose to bring new life, to my pool?

Swimming pool coatings explained

When it comes to pool coatings and painting, there are choices. It is important you make the right choice. It is not just how it looks when new, but how does the coating protect the structure of your pool, over many years of service? Also, how much maintenance the paint needs also.

There are 3 types of pool paint:

Chlorinated Rubber: (CR) is an old technology. It's smelly, hard to apply, lower cost and needs recoating every few years. Very few pool owners use it now.

Epoxy Coatings: These come in various grades and are used widely in industry, marine and corrosive environments. They offer much better performance than Chlorinated Rubber.

Fluoropolymers: These are a quantum leap in coating technology and are now gaining an excellent reputation when the best in coating performance is required. For high UV and weather exposed surfaces, to areas of demanding chemical exposure. Protecting steelwork from rust to coating medical implant devices. All surfaces in need of a safe, long-lasting and highly resistant finish, to a broad range of specific needs. Many steel structures and external decorative panels on high rise buildings, have this unique product, protecting them. Arguably the best protective coating is available for all sorts of purposes and now adapted for use in swimming pools.

“The world’s first solvent soluble fluoropolymer coating was developed over 40 years ago. This same chemistry is now at the forefront of protective coating technology today and it’s due to the extremely durable nature of fluoropolymer coatings. Chemically, a fluoropolymer coating is a fluoroethylene-vinyl ether alternating copolymer also known as FEVE.”

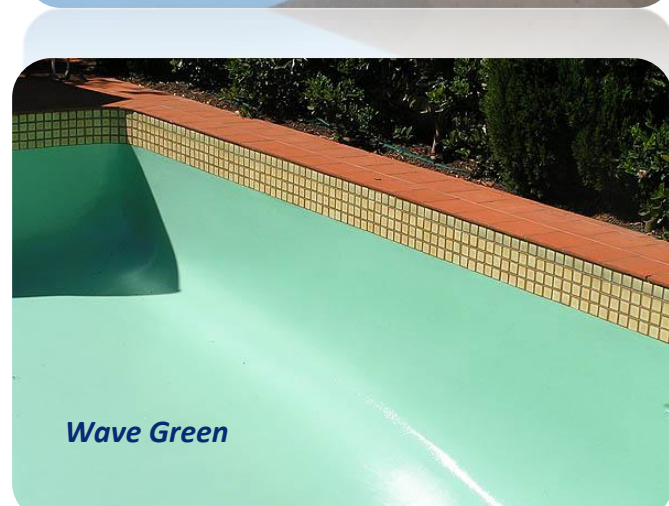
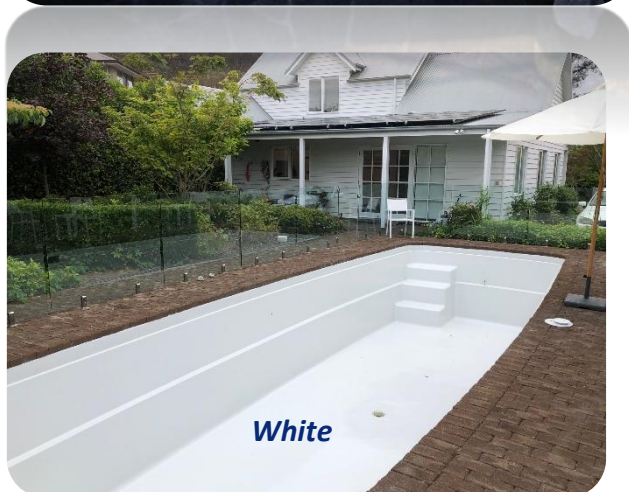
There are a lot of factors to consider when it comes to your pool finish. We all know that the pool does require a lot of attention and maintenance. Lots of fancy finishes look great when installed but after some time they become a hazard, draining energy and money to keep them in a swimming condition! The ideal is to have a long-lasting, low maintenance, attractive, easy clean pool coating that looks great, protects the underlying steel work and concrete from (salt) water attack and for fibreglass, keeps the water from rotting out the structure of the pool.

Chlorinated rubber paints: products are good at retaining colours but have exceptionally low durability and need frequent recoating. Having low solids content requires multiple coats to achieve a workable thickness to last for few years. But they are cheap. Mostly used as a maintenance option applied once a year in public and school pools. Not so popular now due to the annual upkeep.

Epoxyes: those specifically designed for immersed structures and pools with chemically treated water, have much better durability for 5+ years, quite easy to apply with good range of colours. Most of the swimming pools in Australia have epoxy paint on them with various results. Good paints such as PnF 100% Epoxy, High Build and few others show good durability and historically require recoating after 7-9 years or longer. With all epoxyes there are two cons. They all erode (wear slowly away) that is why they must be quite thick 300+ microns when cured and good products such as PnF 100% Epoxy, provide this thickness with 2-3 coats. Cheap epoxyes would need a minimum of 4 coats. Another weakness of epoxyes is UV resistance. They fade, some would fade (UV attack above the water line) within a year, while others will take longer. But it is still a durable and affordable solution for many pools.

Fluoropolymers: such as PnF FP, (Fluoropolymer) which we have introduced, have no such issues. They have shown to be the most UV resistant coating. It does not oxidize in the water and keeps its finish better than any other hard-wearing product. The preparation and application are almost identical to epoxyes and can be applied directly over those and fibreglass. Uncoated porous (concrete – render) (and often fibreglass too) surfaces need a primer. Our tests show that if the product was allowed to cure to 100% and in the right conditions, only an excess of chlorine can react with pigments in the dark colours, discolouring them. But the structure of the coating looks unaffected, unlike other paints. It is reasonably flexible, that is particularly important on flexing shells in fiberglass pools. The product does not lose its flexibility over time, nor its mechanical resistance, which is unmatched by the other coatings. Life expectancy from real world exposure in arduous marine environments is past 35 years before recoating is needed. We consider in pools, where correctly applied and very well-maintained pool water chemistry a life of at least similar or longer to the very best epoxyes can be achieved. We are already seeing better performance over 5 years, of the PnF FP, due to vastly better UV chemical and algae resistance than epoxyes. These factors alone are making FEVE Fluoropolymers a product of choice for pool owners now. Already hundreds of local pool owners have selected this coating system, to save time, energy and money. They want a pool that keeps its good looks for years and years, with limited maintenance needs.

Here are some samples of such projects in different colours.



There are no limits when it comes to colours with fluoropolymers, blue, green, white or even black. All of them will perform the same way! (Note: darker colours require careful water balance management in salt water pools, to reduce "drop out" being noticed.

Pool coatings comparison

Types of pool coatings	Chlorinated Rubber	Epoxy (High Build)	Fluoropolymers
Colours	Very limited, mostly mid blue	Few good colours but limited to trusted formulas	Extensive colour selection, that would suit any tastes
Repainting	Every 2-3 years, in public applications every 12 months	5+ years, good high build products should be repainted every 7-10 years. Will fade and get thinner in patches overtime.	7+. Well maintained pools would last much longer
Corrosion and chemical protecting	None, Will need additional measures / coatings of specified primers to protect anything	Very good protective characteristics but develop microscopic cracks/holes overtime that will affect it, especially in concrete shells	The best protective coating available. Does not crack or develop any holes over time as it does not wear off like the rest of them. Unmatched protective characteristics.
Dry heat resistance	Very unpredictable	Will fade and to slightly yellow overtime.	Virtually no change. Excellent bacterial, chemical and solvent resistance.
Primer	Will require primer for all concrete absorbent surfaces	Will require primer for all concrete absorbent surfaces	Will require primer for all concrete absorbent surfaces, (and nonabsorbent often) applications.
Application conditions	Surface temp:10C + and above, surface must be dry and warm to cure	Surface temp: 12C + will stop curing below specified temperatures and might not get the full strength. Will cure under water.	Surface temp: 5C + This is moisture sensitive product and will require a completely dry surface. The primer can be applied over slightly damp substrate
Warranties	None	Up to 2 years if applied professionally	3 years standard warranty on material performance
Time to refill the pool	7 days after the last coat applied	7 days after the last coat applied	7 days in summer and 14 in winter after the last coat applied
Package	Single pack	Two pack (Resin/Hardener)	Two pack (Polymer/Hardener)
Shelf life	12 months	Up to 18 months	Up to 12 months for both
Working/pot life	n/a	40-60 minutes after being mixed	1 -4 hours depending on air temperature after being mixed.

Types of pool coatings	Chlorinated Rubber	Epoxy (High Build)	Fluoropolymer
Durability	Very limited and require frequent recoating	Requires thick application to last for specified time but will lose its finish/gloss and colour	No loss of finish/gloss for much longer than others, when applied correctly.
Recoating procedure	Easy to recoat when not old	Will require abrading/sanding	Will require abrading/sanding
Compatibility	Can be overcoated only with CR products, has to be completely removed for anything else!	Cannot be applied over chlorinated rubber and acrylic paints. Good chemical adhesion with all types of pools	Cannot be applied over chlorinated rubber and acrylic paints. Good chemical adhesion with all types of pools including previously epoxy painted
Signs of degrading	Chalks (whitens after 12 months)	Yellowing slightly to UV exposure, and may chalk (whiten slowly) after 4 – 7 years)	None. There may be mechanical wear and tear due to hard scratching, but that relates to all coatings
Solvents	High solvent content (will need a protection measure while applying)	Virtually solvent free, very friendly for application	Have 40% solvent and would need some protection for sensitive people but in general very safe to apply in open air.
Environmental impact	With frequent repainting will release chemical fumes but unknown when cured	No impact. Very safe. The product is inert after finishing its curing process. Although raw ingredients are graded as poisonous.	No impact. Very safe. The product is inert after finishing its curing process. Although raw ingredients are graded as poisonous.
The long-term value	Cheap but much more expensive on a long term with frequent recoating and other expenses that it features including water refilling and chemicals replacement	Very cost effective in the long term. Easy and cheaper to resurface.	The most cost-effective coating is available considering its longevity and durability. The Go to Product for lowest cost per sq M/year/ over the long term.

PAINTNFORGET (FP) fluoropolymer is an Australian manufactured product and made for local conditions. We have full confidence that this exciting coating will deliver. 1500+ pools have been coated already, for long-term protection. How about yours?