



Opening Your Pool for Summer

This document is designed to give guidance in getting a pool ready for the swimming season. Much of the information is very generalised, and not all points apply to all pools.

Some pump and filter systems are drained during winter. In that case all pipe unions should be checked and tightened. The drain taps on the pump and near the base of the filter should be closed. Once water begins to flow, quickly check that all drains and connections are closed.

There are several additional documents available on our website, and attention will be drawn to them where they apply.

1. Remove the winter cover, if fitted. Clear any debris from the winter cover before taking it off the pool. Clean and dry the cover ready for storage.
2. Remove any debris from the pool using a leaf net. Clean any waterline marks from the pool walls. Empty the skimmer baskets.
3. Restart the automatic water top-up if fitted. Top up the pool water to its normal level.
4. Where a heat pump is installed, re-connect the pipe connections to the heat pump where it has been allowed to drain during winter, and set the bypass valves to the summer position. There is an instructional leaflet for this on our website. Turn on the power to the heat pump, usually by turning a rotary switch next to the unit.
5. Where a boiler is installed check that it is switched on. All boilers should be checked annually by a qualified boiler engineer.
6. Whilst the pump is off, top up the chlorinator with chlorine tablets.
7. Set the timer for the filter pump to around 8 hours per day. There is an instructional leaflet on our website.
8. Check that the leaf basket is clear under the clear lid on the filter pump. Clean if necessary.
9. Check that the six-position switch on the filter is at the "filtration" setting, and the red handle waste valve to the right of the main filter valve is shut.
10. Open the sump and skimmer valves, close the vacuum valve if fitted, and switch on the filter pump. Water should start flowing through the system. If after a minute or two the water has not filled the leaf basket, close the sump and skimmer valves and switch off the pump. The pump needs to be primed (filled with water) as it is not capable of pumping air. There is an instructional leaflet on our website that explains how to do this. Do not rely on the pressure gauge as these are prone to failure and give a false reading.
11. Check that water is flowing to and from the pool. Look around the pipework and equipment, including the heat pump outside, to make sure there are no water leaks. Check that the heat pump has started up (listen for fan noise), or that the boiler has fired up.
12. If the pool is green or very cloudy follow the procedure detailed in our website.

13. If the pool water is clear, vacuum out any remaining debris from the pool to waste - NOT through the filter. There is an instructional leaflet on our website.
14. Backwash the filter and top up the pool with fresh water. There is an instructional leaflet for backwashing on our website.
15. Prepare the solar or bubble cover or other heat retention cover for use, cleaning off any patches of algae or mould.
16. Check the pool water pH and get it as near as possible to 7.2 – 7.4. Dose with Dry Acid or Alkali granules to correct pH levels.
17. Dose the pool water with a strong dose of shock chlorine (non-stabilised chlorine granules) to kill any algae and harmful organisms that may be present. Allow the water to circulate for 3 – 4 hours to ensure thorough mixing.
18. Then with the water still circulating add the correct dose of algicide pouring it evenly around the pool.
19. If the water is cloudy or you want to heat quickly leave the filter pump running 24/7 until you have either reached your desired temperature or the water has cleared. Note if using an air source heat pump as the heat source it may take a week or more to reach temperature especially if it is still cold at night.

If there are any questions regarding any of the above procedures, please get in touch with our Service Department, who will be happy to assist.

ALL YOUR POOL CHEMICALS ARE AVAILABLE FROM OUR STOCK AT SEMER.

These instructions are a guidance only when addressing specific problem(s) with your pool. Without knowledge of all the variables in a given situation we cannot take responsibility for any damage that may be caused by non-Letts personnel when carrying out these tasks.

Letts Swimming Pools

Semer, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 6HP

01473 822375

www.lettpools.co.uk

info@lettpools.co.uk