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What happens when Cyanuric Acid in a pool is too high?

What is Cyanuric Acid (CYA)? – Cyanuric Acid is a chlorine stabilizer for swimming pools.

What does CYA do? – CYA forms a weak bond with free chlorine in the pool water, protecting it from the sun's ultraviolet rays to reduce chlorine loss. Properly managed, CYA has been shown to reduce the amount of chlorine needed to maintain the minimum chlorine residual in an outdoor pool.

What are Dichlor and Trichlor? – Dichlor and Trichlor, also known as Chlorinated isocyanates, are two solid chlorine compounds that are widely used in outdoor swimming pools that contain cyanuric acid. Dichlor usually comes in a granular form and trichlor is often sold in a tablet for use in an erosion feeder for small commercial pools, such as those at hotels and motels. Stabilized chlorine (dichlor or trichlor should be used in outdoor swimming pools only.

Procedure for testing for CYA in your pool:

<http://www.ask.com/youtube?q=How+do+I+figure+out+how+much+water+to+drain+from+my+pool+to+lower+cyanuric+Acid&qsrc=1&0=0&l=dir&qo=serpSearchtopbox>

What happens when CYA in a pool is too high? – CYA Levels exceeding a threshold of 70 parts-per-million of cyanuric acid can reduce the effectiveness of the chlorine in a pool. The amount of time it takes to kill bacteria lengthens as the concentration of CYA increases. The ideal level for CYA is 30-50 ppm. CYA levels should be tested at least once per week if you are using dichlor or trichlor.

I have an indoor pool. Should I use cyanuric acid? – No. It should never be used in indoor swimming pools, spas or hot tubs. Remember that CYA is intended to reduce the loss of free chlorine caused by the sun's ultraviolet rays. Indoor pools are not exposed to direct sunlight and therefor, there is no benefit in adding CYA to the indoor pool water.

My pool has Cyanuric Acid levels above 30 ppm. How can I reduce them? – Unlike chlorine, CYA is never used up and accumulates in the pool water as a waste product. Once you have added it to the pool water, it will remain in the water. The best way to reduce CYA is to partially drain the pool and add fresh water.

Determining how much water to drain from the pool & replace with fresh water:

<http://www.ask.com/youtube?q=what+do+you+do+when+the+pool+cyanuric+acid+is+too+high&v=vzwig7Zr05g&qsrc=472>

As a rule of thumb, for a CYA of >70, you should drain the percentage of your pool to match the percentage you want to reduce CYA to get the level down to 30.

Examples: For a CYA of 90, if you want to reduce the CYA $\frac{2}{3}$'s down to 30, you should reduce the pool volume by $\frac{2}{3}$'s

For CYA of 120, if you want to reduce the CYA $\frac{3}{4}$'s down to 30, you should reduce the pool volume by $\frac{3}{4}$'s

