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380 Swimming Pool Paint Technical Data Sheet

SURFACE PREPARATION

If your pool has been previously painted but you are unsure as to whether or not it was with chlorinated rubber or two-pack epoxy there is a simple test you can perform. Damp a rag in some thinners, preferably chlorinated rubber thinners or acetone, and then rub this over a small section (30cm x 30cm). If the surface becomes sticky and there is paint on the rag then it is highly likely that the pool was painted with chlorinated rubber. If the surface becomes polished but does not become sticky it is more than likely an Epoxy. If you are uncertain do not proceed any further, contact your pool builder, or relevant documentation to determine what the lining of your pool is made from.

i) PREVIOUSLY PAINTED CHLORINATED RUBBER

Water blast the surface with 2500 to 3000 psi pressure petrol machine.

Remove and/or repair any cracked or damaged areas with a suitable waterproof, non-shrink material such as an Epoxy sand filler. Allow to thoroughly dry before painting. Spot prime any bare areas as per various substrate instructions.

ii) PREVIOUSLY PAINTED TWO-PACK EPOXY

Please note: it is recommended that you strip the previous Epoxy coating off prior to recoating with either Chlorinated Rubber or Two Pack Epoxy. Adhesion is the responsibility of the applicator.

Once the previous coating has been removed, water blast the entire surface to remove any residue, leave the surface to thoroughly dry. Remove and/or repair any cracked or damaged areas with a suitable waterproof, non-shrink material such as an Epoxy sand filler. Allow to thoroughly dry before painting. Spot prime any bare areas as per various substrate instructions.

iii) UN PAINTED OR NEW CONCRETE:

New cement or render should be allowed to cure for at least 21-28 days before any preparation is undertaken. Smooth non absorbent cement should be acid etched.

Thin the first coat of 380 Chlorinated Rubber with 1:1 (one part pool paint with one part T380 Thinner). Alternatively for a better result the surface can be primed with 313 Ultraprime water based epoxy primer.

Acid etching

When acid etching, protective clothing must be worn – rubber gloves, boots and goggles. Prepare the mixture in a PLASTIC BUCKET. ALWAYS ADD ACID TO WATER AND WEAR PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR. NEVER ADD WATER TO ACID.

In a plastic bucket mix a weak solution of hydrochloric acid and water (1:8). Brush the solution on to the surface. The acid will bubble on the surface, as soon as the reaction stops flush the area with clean water. Work on small sections at a time until the entire surface has been etched. When etched correctly the surface should have a rough, sandpapery feel. Splash a small amount of water on the surface to determine if it has been sufficiently etched. If the water soaks in fairly quickly the surface is properly etched. If the water stands on the surface repeat the application of the acid wash until the surface allows the penetration of water. Water blast the entire surface to ensure that all acid and loose debris is removed. Leave the surface to thoroughly dry before painting (this can be up to 1 week depending on season and local weather conditions). Ensure that the removal of acid is in accordance with local council by-laws. Please contact the relevant authority if you are uncertain.

CONDENSATION TEST

Average drying times after water blasting will vary with season, climate and location as well as the porosity of the surface. It is recommended to wait 3-7 days and then perform a condensation test to determine surface dryness. To do this, tape a sheet of plastic (0.5m x 0.5m) to the surface in the morning. Ensure that the seal is air-tight. Around mid afternoon inspect the surface on the pool side to see if any condensation has formed under the surface. Any condensation indicates that the surface is too wet to paint. Wait 24 hours and perform the test again. You must continue with this test until no condensation forms under the plastic after the wait period. **PAINTING OVER A WET SURFACE WILL RESULT IN CHLORINATED RUBBER PAINT BLISTERING AND PEELING OFF. PAINTING EPOXY OVER A WET SURFACE WILL CAUSE BLOOMING ON THE SURFACE – BLOOM IS A FINE WHITE POWDERY DEPOSIT ON THE SURFACE.**

iv) FIBREGLASS

A thorough inspection of the surface must be undertaken to determine soundness. Any suspect areas must be repaired using a suitable fibreglass repair kit. After the necessary repairs have been carried out the entire surface needs to be sanded until it is dull and has a sandpaper feel. Thoroughly water blast the sanded surface to ensure any loose debris is removed. Leave the surface to thoroughly dry before painting. The first coat requires thinning between 10 – 20% with T380 Thinner. Alternatively for a better result the surface can be primed with 313 Ultraprime water based epoxy primer.

v) MARBLESHEEN

A thorough inspection of the surface must be undertaken to determine soundness. Any soft or crumbling areas **MUST** be repaired before undertaking painting. Attempting to paint over unsound marblesheen will result in coating failure – most often this is evidenced by paint flaking off. Any unsound areas can be patched using Selley's Quik-Crete, a cement/sand mix or Sikaflex. All surfaces need to be acid etched to remove any smooth or shiny areas. Marblesheen pools usually require a stronger acid solution (1:5) to remove calcium deposits and break the surface down. As an alternative to acid etching, the surface can be sandblasted or ground using a wire brush attachment for an angle grinder. Prime with 313 Ultraprime water based epoxy.

You must determine if the surface contains asbestos as these surfaces must not be touched.

PAINING THE POOL

THE PAINT

380 Swimming pool paint is different from most conventional paints and requires special application techniques that are simple and easy to follow, but are very important to ensure an excellent result is achieved.

Each coat of chlorinated rubber paint penetrates and softens previous chlorinated rubber coats and welds itself to that surface. This means exceptional intercoat adhesion, but demands the application of thin films without excessively working the surface.

If chlorinated rubber paint is applied too thickly or is worked too much as a result of too much paint on the roller or brush surface then bubbles or blisters may result.

PAINING

Before starting the paint job, check the weather forecast especially for rain or heavy dew. Condensation of the surface may cause discolouration or coating failure.

Prime as per instructions above and apply two un-thinned top coats.

Once the final coat has been applied, leave it 3-4 days before filling with water in summer and up to 7 days in winter. Filling before this time will affect the life expectancy of the coating and cause discolouration.

TIPS FOR PAINTING

1. Application by brush, roller or airless spray. Application by roller is preferred.
2. Apply two finish coats or paint as it comes in the tin. Thinning is not normally necessary or recommended except as required for certain airless equipment.
3. When cutting in (along tile line, around openings etc.):
 - Minimize brush drag and over working the paint
 - Use a 50mm or 75 mm brush
4. Application by roller:
 - Use a 9mm nap roller sleeve, roller handle extension and appropriate roller tray
 - Too much paint on the roller: (a) is hard to spread, (b) will excessively soften the existing coat, and (c) cause solvent entrapment resulting in bubbles and blisters
5. If bubbles do appear before the paint film is completely dry they may have to be removed by brushing lightly with Chlorinated Rubber thinners. If touch up recoating is necessary it should be delayed an extra day before filling.

WATER CHEMISTRY

Maintaining stable water chemistry is essential in maximizing and maintaining the life and appearance of your pool. The following table shows recommended ranges and test frequencies for stable water chemistry.

FACTOR	RANGE	TEST FREQUENCY
pH	7.2-7.6	Daily
Free Chlorine	1.0-2.0	Daily
Total Alkalinity	100-150 ppm	Weekly
Calcium Hardness	200-300 ppm	Monthly
Stabiliser	35-60 ppm	Monthly

pH Levels – pH is a measurement of the acidity or alkalinity of a solution. The pH scale commonly in use ranges from 0 to 14. 7 is used to designate pH neutral solutions, numbers above 7 indicate increasing alkalinity and numbers below 7 indicating increasing acidity. Low pH, combined with UV rays will accelerate the degradation of a pool lining.

Total Alkalinity – alkalinity is a measure of the total amount of alkaline minerals dissolved in water. Alkalinity levels between 100-150 ppm helps to resist fluctuations in pH.

Calcium Hardness – this refers to the total amount of dissolved minerals in the water. Low calcium hardness can cause corrosion of the pool surface, filters, heaters etc. High calcium hardness can cause cloudy water. Signs that your calcium hardness levels might be out of balance include:

- eye and skin irritation
- corrosion of metals (e.g., pump seals, heaters, lights etc)
- a white chalky scale build up on the pool surface

Some chemicals added to pool water can react with each other to form salts, which, over time, can form a precipitate on the walls and floor of the pool. This is more likely to occur in new pools and pools that are improperly balanced. Improperly balanced water affects the solubility of certain minerals, factors such as increased water temperature, high pH and high total alkalinity decrease the solubility of minerals thereby increasing the likelihood of a stain forming on the walls and floor of the pool. It is important that you regularly test your water to ensure that you minimise the chances of scale formation, as well as increasing the life of your pool lining. If there is a significant scale build up the pool needs to be drained and the scale scrubbed off either with solvent or an acid wash. Following this, the surface needs to be thoroughly water-blasted and allowed to dry before filling.

TROUBLESHOOTING

There are certain circumstances that arise that can affect the appearance and performance of the chlorinated rubber pool coatings. Below are outlined some of the common situations, what the possible cause is and how it can be remedied.

1. STAINING – this is when a fine powdery coating forms on the surface resulting in a reduction in gloss.

Possible causes

- i) The pool is filled too soon, before the paint is fully cured
- ii) The depositing of soluble salts onto the paint surface caused by unstable water chemistry, super-chlorinated water or over treating water with calcium hypochlorite
- iii) Application of the paint at low temperatures

Possible Solutions

- i) Ensure that the paint is left to cure for the recommended time before filling, this might be longer in winter
- ii) High chlorine levels affect chalking, keep levels in line with recommendations. Also, regular brushing and filtration helps minimize chalking.
- iii) Check calcium hardness levels and consult your pool shop for remedies.
- iv) Drain the pool and leave to dry. Then either acid wash or solvent wash the entire surface.

2. BLISTERING – is when the coating shows cracks and peeling from the substrate.

Possible Causes

- i) Using a medium (12mm) to long nap (20mm) roller which draws too much air into the paint
- ii) Painting over a moist or damp surface
- iii) Painting during high temperature (over 30°C)
- iv) Applying the paint too thick
- v) Filling the pool before it is cured
- vi) Incompatible paints

Possible Solutions

- i) Apply at recommended coverage rates
- ii) Ensure that the surface is dry prior to painting
- iii) Ensure paint is fully cured before filling with water

3. BUBBLES - Bubbles should not appear if the paint is correctly applied.

Possible Causes

- i) Painting over a damp or poorly cleaned surface
- ii) Use of too much paint resulting in an excessively thick finish coat
- iii) Finish coat ‘worked’ too much
- iv) Applying the next coat before the previous coat has dried

Possible Solution

- i) If bubbles should appear on the surface of the paint after it has become tacky or touch dry they can be collapsed and removed by brushing them lightly with a little Chlorinated Rubber thinners.
- ii) If bubbles have hardened, they should be depressed using finger pressure or a rolling pin. It is important not to burst or scrape any bubbles. Once depressed the bubbles will reform to a smooth film as the pool is filled with water.

COVERAGE – 8-10m² per litre

PACKS – 4 litre, 10 litre

COLOURS – Olympic Blue, Amazon Blue, White and Black.

Con-Treat Pty Ltd - Unit 11, 80-82 Township Drv Burleigh Heads Qld 4220
www.contreat.com.au

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