

Pool Covers - Keep it covered and save money

One of the best assistants for a pool owner is a pool cover. There are basically 2 types of manual cover; a Floating Solar Cover and a Winter/Leaf Cover.

Any type of pool cover will reduce chemical usage by reducing the amount of pollutants that enter the water; and will increase the swimming season (with or without a heater) by reducing heat losses associated with evaporation.

A Floating Cover is basically industrial-strength blue bubble-wrap with attitude. The best, most cost-effective, type has an UV-stabilised top layer and will be edged with a reinforcing tape. This type of cover must be used with a storage roller to minimise wear and maximize lifespan. The roller should be fitted with wheels so you can move it away from the pool when the cover is off the pool.

This is how we make a Floating Pool Cover: - We visit the pool and take accurate measurements. We then make a cover that is slightly larger than the pool and float it on the water. Then we take a sharp knife, a pair of scissors and a deep breath; and cut the cover exactly to size. We form the cover into the curves of the Roman End, leave cut-outs for ladder steps, etc., always complying with the Pool Industry Safety Guidelines.

Next, we remove the cover and take it back to the factory to be dried and edged with reinforced vinyl tape. When all work has been completed, we return to the pool by appointment, with the cover and roller, and set the system up. We then teach the client how to operate it correctly it to get the maximum life-span from the equipment.

Most Floating Covers can be deployed and removed by one person in a couple of minutes.

A Winter Cover is a tad more labour intensive. The material from which it's made is heavier than water, so a minimum of 2 people are needed to fit or remove it to prevent it sinking to the bottom of the pool. On the plus side, it needs no roller as it is only fitted once a year, and remains in situ until the spring. If given a choice choose a winter cover that is totally opaque. This excludes light and will therefore minimise the chances of an algae attack – so you can use less winteriser fluid or chlorine to keep the pool clean over winter. A winter pool cover must have a drainage panel in the centre to clear rainwater from the cover, or alternatively a small pump that sits on the cover and pumps rainwater off.

An automatic pool-cleaner can function beneath either type of cover. Please see our webpage with more information on Pool Covers and other pool-related items.

http://www.deep-blue-pools.com/pool_covers.htm

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