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Paint Manufacturers
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## PRODUCT DATA SHEET – PREVIOUSLY PAINTED

# 358 Two-Pack Epoxy Swimming Pool Paint

### 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**

**Please note: do not recoat chlorinated rubber with two-pack epoxy. If you want to recoat with epoxy you will need to strip the chlorinated rubber coating off.**

**ii) PREVIOUSLY PAINTED TWO-PACK EPOXY**

The entire surface must be thoroughly abraded, preferably by sandblasting, in order to achieve a sufficient key for the paint to adhere to. Any loose, peeling or flaking paint must be removed. The surface can also be abraded with a belt sander or angle grinder using coarse sandpaper or grinding discs. Sandblasting, sanding and grinding are the recommended techniques for preparation, **waterblasting is NOT an adequate preparation technique**. Failure to adequately abrade the Epoxy coating can result in failure of the topcoat. Once a sufficient grind has been achieved waterblast the entire surface to remove any sanding residue, leave the surface to thoroughly dry. Repair any damaged areas with a cement/sand mixture, or suitable epoxy filler. Ensure that the repaired surface/s are appropriately abraded before applying the paint.

# PAINTING THE POOL

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

Only mix one pack at a time to avoid gelling of paint that sits in the can. To mix the paint add 358B to 358A and mix thoroughly with a low speed electric drill or suitable mixer. Ensure that your mixing equipment is clean. When mixing, make sure that you scrape down the sides of the mixing can so that all parts of the paint are mixed thoroughly together. Incomplete mixing will result in paint that does not cure, evidenced by a wet or tacky surface after 4-6 hours. Mix the part A and part B combination for approximately 10 minutes. Fill the hardener can with Epox-100 solvent until all hardener is removed from the sides of the can and then add to the mix, stirring for a further 10 minutes. NEVER MIX PART PACKS – ALWAYS USE WHOLE PACKS. Ensure that the mixed paint is kept cool as higher temperatures reduce pot life.

Cut in around the tile line using a brush, apply to the main surface using a roller. After applying the admixture leave the paint for 10-15 minutes, after this time inspect the surface to see if any bubbles have appeared. If there are bubbles go over the surface LIGHTLY with a wet roller to allow the bubbles to reform into the paint.

Let the first coat cure a minimum of 24 hours before applying the second coat of Epoxy. If there is any chance of rain or a heavy dew during the 24 hour dry time there might be a milky discolouration over the entire surface. A light sanding with medium-grade sandpaper can remove this. Remove all sanding dust before applying the second coat of Epoxy.

Once the second coat has been applied, leave it 7 days before filling with water in summer and up to 14 days in winter. Filling before this time will affect the life expectancy of the coating and cause discolouration. DO NOT add chemicals for at least 3-5 days.

## 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.

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**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 two-pack epoxy 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. A yellow tinge can also develop on the surface of your epoxy coating which is caused by excess hardener leaching to the surface. This will disappear over the course of 3-6 months. To try and avoid this, ensure that your mix ratios are exact.

**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.

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

**Possible Causes**

i) Painting over a moist or damp surface
ii) Painting during high temperature (over 30°C)
iii) Applying the paint too thick
iv) Filling the pool before it is cured
v) 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

**COVERAGE** – 2.5-5$m^2$ per litre

**PACKS** – 2.5 litre, 7.5 litre

**COLOURS** – Olympic Blue, White

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