

Hazardous Substances – **General**

08.01.11

Handling & storage of pool chemicals >

When handling chemicals used for maintaining swimming pools you need to be very careful. Pool chemicals can be dangerous if not stored or handled properly. In certain circumstances, pool chemicals may even start or cause a fire.

Safe Handling of Pool Chemicals

- Read and follow the instructions on the label carefully.
- Never mix different chemicals together. They may explode or produce poisonous fumes.
- Use clean, dry scoops (not wood) to transfer chemicals.
- Don't put spilt chemicals back into their containers - dispose of in the pool.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling chemicals and their containers
- Don't smoke while handling chemicals.
- Avoid contact with pool chemicals.
- Don't use any product other than the one specified for the feeder unit.
- Don't add other chemicals to the skimmer when an autofeeder is in use.
- Always wear safety glasses or similar when dissolving or mixing chemicals.

Pool chemicals fall into two classes:**Oxidizers**

Oxidisers such as Calcium Hypochlorite, a powder commonly called 'Pool Chlorine'. Oxidizers are identified by a yellow diamond.

Corrosives

Corrosives such as Hydrochloric Acid and Sodium Hypochlorite, a liquid commonly called 'Liquid Pool Chlorine'. Corrosives are identified by a black and white diamond (Incidentally, Liquid Pool Chlorine also acts as a strong oxidizer)

putting safety first >



Safe storage of pool chemicals

- Never store oxidizers and acids in close proximity to each other. Pool chemicals which are oxidizers release poisonous chlorine gas if allowed to come in contact with acids.
- Store in a cool, dry area away from sunlight.
- Keep pool chemicals out of reach of children.
- Don't store pool chemicals near petrol, fertilizers etc. Mixing may cause a severe explosion.
- Store chemicals in their original containers – never change chemicals from one container to another.
- Separate powders from liquids – don't stack products on top of one another.

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