



## **GEMSTONE / SANDSTONE START-UP PROCEDURES**

The procedures outlined below are intended to be followed subsequent to completion of Burkett's one time complimentary start-up (considered day one relative to the schedule below).

### **Do not use any of the following during the noted period after water fill**

- Pool heater or solar heating (**14 days**)
- Pool cleaner/sweep or vacuum system (**7 days**)

Salt chlorination systems may not be activated until chemicals are otherwise in balance – typical waiting period for salt activation is **28 days** after water fill. Do not add salt to the pool until the date of activation. If the salt chlorinator has been purchased from Burkett's we will schedule a service person to initiate the salt system.

## **POOL/SPA START-UP SCHEDULE**

### **Day Two:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice-morning and evening. Water will appear cloudy while brushing. It is important to hit the entire pebble surface area.
2. Check total alkalinity and adjust to 80-100ppm.
3. Check PH and adjust to 7.4-7.6ppm.
4. Check Calcium Hardness and adjust to 180ppm.
5. Operate pump and filter 24 hours per day to clear "dust" from suspension in the water.

### **Day Three:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice. Water will continue to appear cloudy while brushing.
2. Check total alkalinity and adjust to 80-100ppm.
3. Check PH and adjust to 7.4-7.6ppm.
4. Check Calcium Hardness and adjust to 180ppm.
5. Operate pump and filter 24 hours per day to clear "dust".

### **Day Four:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice. Water will continue to appear cloudy while brushing.
2. Check total alkalinity and adjust to 80-100ppm.
3. Check PH and adjust to 7.4-7.6ppm.
4. Check Calcium Hardness and adjust to 180ppm.
5. Operate pump and filter 24 hours per day to clear "dust".

**Day Five:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice. Water should begin to clear but it is important to continue brushing.
2. Check the total alkalinity, PH, and Calcium Hardness - adjust to ideal range per attached "Pool Water Balance" sheet. Water should be approaching ideal range.
3. Add Cyanuric acid "conditioner" to the pool. Do not exceed 50ppm. (*Burkett's does not supply*).
4. Add chlorine to the pool and adjust to ideal range (1.0-3.0ppm)(*Burkett's does not supply*).
5. Cut pump and filter operation to 18 hours per day.

**Day Six:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice. Water should continue to clear but it is important to continue brushing.
2. Check the total alkalinity, PH, and Calcium Hardness - adjust to ideal range per attached "Pool Water Balance" section. Water should be approaching ideal range.
3. Add chlorine to the pool (if needed) and adjust to ideal range (1.0-3.0ppm)
4. Continue operating pump and filter 18 hours per day.

**Day Seven:**

1. Brush pool/spa twice. Water should continue to clear but it is important to continue brushing.
2. Take a water sample and have it evaluated by a professional (*such as Leslies Pool Supplies*) to confirm home readings.
3. Reset filtration pump to run 6 hours per day in the off season and 10 hours per day in swim season. Goal is to "turn" water once per day in swim season – run time may be longer for multi speed pumps running at slower rpm's.
4. Pool cleaner may be installed and activated. If there is a pool cleaner booster pump it must run within same time period primary filtration pump is running.

**Ongoing Maintenance-Important Notes:**

1. Continue to brush the pool/spa daily until “dust” is no longer visible in the water. Periodic brushing is recommended thereafter.
2. **Consistent chemical balancing and filtration cycles are critical to the long term durability of your new interior finish and pool equipment (including heater).** Improper maintenance of the pool/spa may void the warranty provided by the contractor / manufacturer.
3. The ongoing use of a Sequestering agent is recommended for stain prevention (this was added by Burkett’s on day one). If you are unable to test for this add 6-8 ounces per 10,000 gallons on a weekly basis. *A sequestering agent groups metals/minerals together so they can precipitate and be captured by the filter. The agent is expended at varying rates depending on several variables.*

**POOL WATER BALANCE**

SEQUESTERING AGENT – 10 – 12 ppm

CALCIUM HARDNESS – IDEAL RANGE 200 – 400 ppm

Low

Etches Plaster

Increases corrosion

Shorter plaster life

Rough plaster

Hard to clean

Increase mottling

Low correction -

High correction -

High

Scale on surface

Discoloration

Rough surface

Hard to clean

Piping scale reduces recirculation

Add calcium increaser

Dilute pool water and add scale inhibitor

TOTAL ALKALINITY – IDEAL RANGE 80 – 120 ppm

Low

Staining

Increase corrosion

Spot Etching

Low correction -

High correction -

High

High acid demand

Scale

Add bicarb

Add muriatic acid

**PH BALANCE– IDEAL RANGE 7.4 – 7.6 ppm**

**Low PH**

Faster chlorine loss

Eye irritation

Etching of plaster

Low correction -

High correction -

**High PH**

Forms Scale

Clouds water

Add soda ash

Add muriatic acid

**CYANURIC ACID – AKA : “CONDITIONER” OR “STABILIZER” DO NOT EXCEED 50 ppm**

*Tablets release CYA into water and can build up over time.*

IDEAL RANGE 30 – 50 ppm – IDEAL 40 ppm -- Prevents loss of chlorine to ultra violet rays

**Low**

Chlorine dissipates

Low correction -

High correction -

**High**

Chlorine less active

Need to adjust total alkalinity reading

Drain pool and refill with new water

**CHLORINE – SANITIZERS - IDEAL RANGE –M 1.0 – 3.0 ppm**

**Low**

Algae growth

Clouds water

Low correction -

High correction -

**High**

Eye irritation

Add chlorine

Add water or additional time