

Regulations Context

The decree of April 7th 1981 modified by the decree of the 20th September 1991 fixes the standards of hygiene and security applicable for pools open to the public.

These regulations apply to ALL pools other than those reserved for the exclusive use of one family, such as: Municipal pools, leisure centre pools, pools in hotels, campsites, gite complexes etc.

The pool water must permanently conform to the regulations set out for physical, chemical and bacteriological condition.

The water treatment products and process must be authorized.

The opening of a new public pool is subject to a declaration approved by the services of the D.D.A.S.S

In a swimming pool it's also the swimmer who is the polluter. It is practical to install a sufficient amount of sanitation, changing rooms, showers etc that are available to swimmers adjacent to the pool area.

It is essential to remind all swimmers to respect elemental personal hygiene, using the toilets, to shower, to blow their noses in a tissue, remove make-up, to rinse their feet in a foot bath.

Good water quality and reducing health risks depends on your willingness and efforts of everyone.

Reminder.

Swimming is forbidden for people with skin conditions such as verruca's, athletes foot, throat infections, angina, ear infections.

This information can be indicated on a panel situated at the pool entrance.

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Public Pool Health and Hygiene



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The Regulations are based on a double obligation

General Obligation

Your pool must be designed and maintained in a manner to prevent contamination susceptible to developing and maintain the standard of your premises.

The pool water must be supplied by mains water to maintain the level of the pool and must be installed through a header tank ("bac de Disconnexion)

You must replace a minimum of 30 ltrs of water per bather per day.

Chemicals MUST NOT be added directly into the pool it must be done in a way that adds the treatment directly into the water system of the pool.

Your pool water must be completely changed a minimum of once a year for seasonal pools.

Establishing a maintenance regime including the cleansing of pool areas. The water that cleans the pool area must never be able to find it's way into the pool itself.

Caution must be used when handling pool water treatment products, (chlorine, acid...!)

Obligation of Results

At the moment water is made available to the public, a satisfactory standard of quality is set out by the regulations. To satisfy this obligation you must:

Measure regularly the chlorine, pH and Stabilizer. 3 times a day for the chlorine and once a week for the stabilizer. Measurements of chlorine can be done using the D.P.D(1) system.

Keep a daily sanitary journal and note the results of the different levels recorded and any maintenance or repairs carried out.

Standards of Quality

Parameters	Recommended Standards
Chlorine:	
Active chlorine (1) unstabilised.	Between 0.4 and 1.4 mg/l
Active chlorine stabilised.	Between 2 mg/l and 4 mg/l
Combined chlorine or chloramines (2).	Less than 0.6 mg/l
Bromine	Between 1 and 2 mg/l
pH	Between 6.9 and 7.7 for a pool sanitised by chlorine Between 7.5 and 8.2 for pools sanitised by bromine
Stabiliser (isocyanuric acid)	Less than 75mg/l
Sediments (turbidite)	The transparency of the water must enable you to be able to perfectly see the bottom of every pool.

(1) Active chlorine is defined in a tube taking In to account the pH and chlorine and read after adding a DPD1 tablet

(2) Levels of Chloramines (chlorine and stabilizer combined) =
Total Chlorine—Free Chlorine (DPD1 + DPD3) - (DPD1)

Treatment

The filtration is the foundation of water treatment, and indispensable to good disinfection. The treatment must be adaptable to the frequent changes in use of the establishment. It is important to wash the filters frequently when usage is increased. Continual skimming of the pool is also indispensable.

FAQS (Frequently asked questions)

After a strong injection of chlorine, the reading of chlorine given by the DPD method shows a transparent reading in the test tube. What's going on?

The chlorination of your pool is too high (more than 10mg/l) and the DPD tablet has de-colored. You should be able to retake the reading after diluting the chlorine several times. You need to stop chlorinating and add some new water. It's also preferable to wait until the levels have reduced before allowing bathing in the pool.

The pool water is irritating bathers eyes, what do I do ?

This phenomenon is often due to an excess of chloramines in the pool. Verify the water treatment system, chlorine, pH and stabilizer, it's often following an increase in chlorine. verify the state of the filters, replenish the pool with fresh water and ensure the pool usage is not excessive.

Stabilizer (isocyanuric acid) levels too high (over 75 mg/l) what do I do?

You must add new water and partially drain the pool. Stop using chemical products that contain a stabilizer (isocyanuric acid). It's recommended to maintain a level of between 30 and 50 mg/l

The pool is discolored and cloudy. What do I do?

Verify your water treatment system, the chlorination is without doubt insufficient (refer to the table opposite). In the absence of swimmers add some chlorine shock treatment and add some anti-algae.

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