



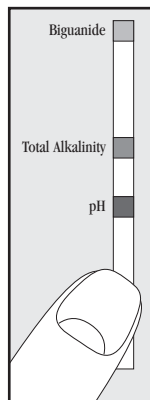
## Basic Pool/Spa Water Chemistry

AquaChek® Biguanide is a test for Biguanide, pH and Total Alkalinity. The test pads on the strip change color to indicate the levels in your pool or spa water. Be sure to snap the lid securely closed on the AquaChek bottle immediately after dispensing a strip. This will prevent strips from spilling and keep them fresh. **Store the strips in a cool, dry place, and leave the packet of drying agent in the bottle—it will keep the test strips at their best.**

This insert provides some basic information about water chemistry.

**WARNING: Exercise extreme caution when handling chemicals.** Do not add chemicals when swimmers are in the water. Never store acids and chlorine compounds next to each other. Never mix chemicals together; add chemicals to the water one at a time. Handle acid very carefully. Wear protective eyewear and keep material away from children. **Always follow the chemical manufacturer's directions.**

**To keep your pool at its best, test at each end a minimum of twice a week, and test your spa before each use. It's also a good idea to write down your results each time you test.**



## Biguanide

AquaChek® Biguanide is specially formulated to test for Biguanide. Biguanide (sold as BAQUACIL® Chlorine-Free Swimming Pool Sanitizer and Algistat, BaquaSpa™ Sanitizer, SoftSwim™ Bactericide, PolyClear® MaxiPolish Swimming Pool Sanitizer and Algistat, or Revacil® Swimming Pool Sanitizer\*) is the chlorine-free water sanitizer of choice for many pools and spas. Keeping your pool or spa's Biguanide level in the ideal range of 30 to 50 ppm (parts per million) will keep the water sparkling clean and clear. But before making any adjustments, be sure that Total Alkalinity and pH are in the right ranges. If the Biguanide is too low, add Biguanide. For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pool or spa, contact your dealer.

\*BAQUACIL and BaquaSpa are trademarks of Arch Chemicals, Inc. SoftSwim is a trademark of Bio-Lab, Inc. PolyClear MaxiPolish is a trademark of Alden Leeds, Inc. Revacil is a trademark of Mareva, Inc. Use of these trademarks does not imply endorsement.

## Total Alkalinity

Total Alkalinity measures the amount of alkaline substances (carbonates and bicarbonates) in your water. Alkaline substances buffer your water against sudden changes in the pH of the water. It is important to prevent pH changes that can cause corrosion or scaling of metal fixtures. Total Alkalinity should be adjusted before adding chemicals to balance pH or Free Chlorine.\* If Total Alkalinity is too low, add sodium bicarbonate. If Total Alkalinity is too high, add an acid (see tables below). For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pool or spa, contact your dealer.

\*Note: Low pH readings may result when Total Alkalinity is less than 80 ppm (parts per million). If the Total Alkalinity pad turns blue (very high) or yellow (very low), adjust the Total Alkalinity. Re-test until the test shows the alkalinity to be within the right range of 80-120 ppm.

Raising Alkalinity With Sodium Bicarbonate					
Increase in Total Alkalinity in ppm	Pool Volume				
	1,000 gal. 3.8 kL	5,000 gal. 19 kL	10,000 gal. 38 kL	15,000 gal. 57 kL	25,000 gal. 95 kL
10	2 1/2 oz. 62 g	12 oz. 340 g	1 1/2 lbs. 681 g	2 1/4 lbs. 1 kg	3 3/4 lbs. 1.7 kg
20	4 3/4 oz. 135 g	1 1/2 lbs. 681 g	3 lbs. 1.4 kg	4 1/2 lbs. 2 kg	7 1/2 lbs. 3.4 kg
50	12 oz. 340 g	3 3/4 lbs. 1.7 kg	7 1/2 lbs. 3.4 kg	11 1/4 lbs. 5 kg	18 3/4 lbs. 8.5 kg

Lowering Alkalinity With Dry Acid (Sodium Bisulfate)					
Decrease in Total Alkalinity in ppm	Pool Volume				
	1,000 gal. 3.8 kL	5,000 gal. 19 kL	10,000 gal. 38 kL	15,000 gal. 57 kL	25,000 gal. 95 kL
10	2 1/2 oz. 70.8 g	12 3/4 oz. 361 g	1 1/2 lbs. 681 g	2 1/2 lbs. 1.1 kg	4 lbs. 1.8 kg
20	5 oz. 142 g	1 1/2 lbs. 681 g	3 1/4 lbs. 1.5 kg	4 3/4 lbs. 2.2 kg	8 lbs. 3.6 kg
50	12 3/4 oz. 361 g	4 lbs. 1.8 kg	8 lbs. 3.6 kg	12 lbs. 5.4 kg	20 3/4 lbs. 9.4 kg

## pH

pH refers to the intensity of acid or alkaline materials in your water. If pH is too high, scale can form on surfaces in contact with the water. If pH is too low, metal parts will corrode. Adjust Total Alkalinity before adjusting the pH; this will help prevent sudden fluctuations in pH.\* When the pH is too low, add soda ash. When it is too high, add an acid (see tables below). For more detailed advice on the specific chemical treatment for your pool or spa, contact your dealer.

Raising pH with Soda Ash (Sodium Carbonate)					
(When pH is under 7.2, add the amount of soda ash indicated below, then retest)					
pH Level	Pool Volume				
	1,000 gal. 3.8 kL	5,000 gal. 19 kL	10,000 gal. 38 kL	15,000 gal. 57 kL	25,000 gal. 95 kL
7.0 - 7.2	3/4 oz.	4 oz.	8 oz.	12 oz.	1 1/4 lbs.
	21.3 g	113 g	227 g	340 g	568 g
6.7 - 7.0	1 1/4 oz.	6 oz.	12 oz.	1 lb.	2 lbs.
	35.4 g	170 g	340 g	454 g	908 g
Under 6.7	1 1/2 oz.	8 oz.	1 lb.	1 1/2 lbs.	2 1/2 lbs.
	42.5 g	227 g	454 g	681 g	1.1 kg

Lowering pH using Dry Acid (Sodium Bisulfate)					
(When pH is over 7.8, add the amount of acid indicated below, then retest)					
pH Level	Pool Volume				
	1,000 gal. 3.8 kL	5,000 gal. 19 kL	10,000 gal. 38 kL	15,000 gal. 57 kL	25,000 gal. 95 kL
7.8 - 8.0	0.1 lbs.	0.3 lbs.	0.6 lbs.	0.9 lbs.	1.5 lbs.
	45 g	136 g	272 g	408 g	681 g
8.0 - 8.4	0.2 lbs.	0.5 lbs.	1.0 lbs.	1.5 lbs.	2.5 lbs.
	91 g	227 g	454 g	681 g	1.1 kg
Over 8.4	0.3 lbs.	0.8 lbs.	1.5 lbs.	2.3 lbs.	3.8 lbs.
	136 g	363 g	681 g	1.0 kg	1.7 kg

To learn more about pool and spa water testing,  
 visit our web site, **www.AquaChek.com**



