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## LUXAPOOL EPOXY POOL COATING APPLICATION GUIDE

### FIBREGLASS POOLS

1. Empty the pool and using a stiff brush or broom, scrub the entire surface with diluted **LUXAPOOL Concentrated Wash** (mixed at a ratio of 500ml Concentrated Wash to 20 litres of warm water). This removes grease contaminants such as sun creams, oils, body fats, greases, etc. Pay particular attention to step areas and corners where oil accumulation may occur. Upon completion thoroughly rinse the pool with clean water to remove all traces of **LUXAPOOL Concentrated Wash**. Allow to dry thoroughly.

2. All suspect areas of the fibreglass surface must be repaired with a suitable fibreglass repair kit prior to final sanding. Pay particular attention to any sections that appear as blisters, or otherwise raised from the surface as these will likely become a source of coating failure if not rectified.

3. The entire surface of the pool must be abraded using 36 > 40 grit sanding discs. Be careful so as to only completely 'dull' the **whole surface** without cutting into the existing laminate below the gelcoat. The resultant surface should have a 'sandpapery feel' so as to ensure the best possible mechanical key for the new epoxy coating. Thus the **total surface** must be abraded prior to coating.

Alternatively FRP surfaces may be abraded by 'whip blasting' techniques (wet or dry process as local regulations may allow) This can only be undertaken by experienced abrasive blasting contractors.

**Water blasting is NOT an adequate alternative surface preparation technique.**

Alternatively the pool can be abraded using a belt sander or angle grinder, ensuring the use of coarse abrasive paper or grinding discs. Optimum grit grade is between 20 > 40.

**Failure to abrade the existing coating thoroughly can result in adhesive failure of the new epoxy coating.**

**CAUTION:** In some cases fibreglass pools are covered with a whitish surface deposit. This deposit is normally 'calcification' [a build up of calcium on the pool surface]. **This deposit must be removed prior to abrading the pool surface.** Soaking with Hydrochloric Acid or Muriatic Acid applied with a plastic watering can, and agitated with a nylon broom will generally remove such deposits.



4. Remove all sanding residues by vacuuming or brooming, with collection in a dust pan. Then hose the pool thoroughly to remove last traces of fine dust. Allow all surfaces to dry thoroughly before proceeding to painting
5. Refer below, '**PAINTING THE POOL**'

## **PAINTING THE POOL**

1. Prior to painting, check the weather forecast. Three consecutive rain free days are ideal for the painting process. Defer painting if rain is expected. The presence of rain during the painting process may discolour the coating or cause paint failure.
2. It is best to apply the paint between 8 am and 11 am. *Do not apply later than this time as evening dew can cause water spotting or blooming, which will affect the adhesion of the paint causing failure.* **Apply only between the temperatures of 10°C and 30°C, but do not paint in direct, mid summer sun.** In mid summer paint as early as possible in the day, and then ideally protect the coating from direct sunlight by shading. This is particularly important in the first 3 > 6 hours of cure. Painting outside of this temperature range and shade control can damage the coating.
3. Check that batch numbers on all Part A are identical. Make sure that all Part B cans are either all summer or all winter cure activity. This is to ensure a uniformity of colour on your pool. Record the batch number, found on the lid, side or bottom of every Part A can.
4. Add Part B to Part A base and **mix thoroughly** with a clean, **flat stirring stick** or the stirrer provided. Allow to 'digest' for 5-10 minutes, then remix and begin to use immediately. ***Failure to mix the two parts thoroughly will result in the paint not curing properly. Paint that is still wet and tacky after 4-6 hours has not been mixed correctly and it will not cure. Consult Colormaker Industries.*** Mix only one pack at a time and apply within one hour. Coverage of **LUXAPOOL Epoxy Pool Coating** is approximately 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> per 3.5 L pack, each coat, for a two-coat system. Keep paint cool before and during use. Excess heat diminishes workable pot-life. Ensure that Part A and Part B cans are kept cool prior to mixing. Do not adjust mixing ratios of Part A to Part B components. **ALWAYS MIX AND USE WHOLE PACKS. NEVER USE PART PACKS.**

**WARNING: do not add any substances to Luxapool Epoxy Pool Coating as any addition will result in loss of optimum performance. USE ONLY AS INSTRUCTED.**



5. Apply by roller. Cut in at the tile line with a brush. Do not apply thin coats of **LUXAPOOL Swimming Pool Epoxy Coating** as it will wear faster resulting in a patchy coating. Allow the painted areas to “stand” for approximately 10-15 minutes after application especially in higher temperatures. If small bubbles appear during this “standing” phase they can be eliminated by *lightly* draping a wet roller (not loaded) over the surface. Only lightly touch the paint surface. This bursts the bubbles allowing the resulting crater to flow and re-form into a uniform film. Only practice this technique if there are many bubbles on the surface and only within the first 10-15 minutes of painting. The emergence of these bubbles is due to entrapment of air within the surface (once painted). The bubbles rise due to expansion from heat and can be minimised greatly by utilising a protective shade-cloth. The occurrence of these bubbles is also affected by surface type and texture. Avoiding all bubbles is impossible, however minimising their numbers is achievable.

6. The pool requires a minimum of two coats of **LUXAPOOL**, and sometimes three, in order to achieve a minimum dry film thickness of 400 microns. Achieving this film thickness is critical to the long-term durability of the finished coating. An average size pool (10m x 5m) requires approximately 7-8 packs of **LUXAPOOL** Epoxy Coating for a two-coat finish.

7. After application of the first coat, allow 24 hours curing time prior to applying the second coat. **Any milky discolouration (bloom) caused by unpredicted rain, evening dew, or high humidity, should be thoroughly removed by abrading with a medium-grade sanding paper (40-60 grit) prior to application of the second coat.** ALWAYS paint within 24 hours of the previous coat. **If more than 24 hours has elapsed between coats it is necessary to thoroughly abrade the entire pool surface to a dull finish prior to recoating.** Remove all sanding dust prior to application of the epoxy.

8. The longer a pool is allowed to dry prior to filling the better the ultimate coating quality and longevity. ALWAYS allow the coating to dry **at least 7 DAYS IN SUMMER, and 14 DAYS IN WINTER**, prior to filling the pool. If a coating has not had adequate drying time and is filled prematurely its colour will be damaged. This is seen as cloudy, uneven colour distribution on the last coat. DO NOT add chemicals for at least 3-5 days.

9. Stable pool chemistry determines the longevity of the epoxy coating. Fluctuating pool chemistry will damage your epoxy coating. **For best results maintain pH between 7.6 & 7.8 and maintain Total Alkalinity in the range 140-160 ppm. Calcium hardness should ideally be 280 ppm – 320 ppm, and preferably higher for darker colours. Minimise use of acid where possible. Keep chlorine levels at a minimum.** Excessively high chlorine levels will degrade your coating. Poor pool chemistry maintenance will accelerate chalking and degradation of the epoxy coating.



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10. Once the pool has been filled it is important to maintain the surface. Brushing down your pool every 4-6 weeks will maintain a coating of good integrity and improve longevity.

11. Application at very low temperatures can result in accelerated chalking of the coating. It is best to apply the coating during spring, summer and autumn. Application during winter months can result in a prematurely chalky surface.

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*The ultimate performance of our products will vary according to surfaces, to surface preparation, and to the correct or incorrect application procedure.*

*Colormaker Industries, as manufacturer of the products cannot supervise application by the purchaser or applicator. Therefore no warranty can be given as to the suitability of the product for a particular purpose. Provided nothing herein shall be deemed to exclude, restrict or modify any conditions of warranty expressed or implied by any State or Federal statute.*