

Inground Pool Care

How to Open an Inground Pool in the Spring

latham

The Pool Company

How to Open an Inground Pool in the Spring

- 1. Clean & remove your cover:** Remove the water and debris off your pool cover (you may want to invest in a cover pump if there is significant water accumulation). After it's cleared, take off the pool cover and reinstall your ladders and pool accessories.
- 2. Fill your pool:** Use a garden hose to fill your pool to its regular water level (look for the skimmer opening or aim to get to it around halfway up the tile)
- 3. Reconnect everything:** Reconnect everything you disconnected from your filtration system the previous year like the pump, heater, filter, etc. If you have used antifreeze in your skimmer and return lines, wait until it has dried until you remove the winterizing plugs. Reinstall the regular drain plugs throughout the system. Check and clean your filter if it looks dirty. Set the multiport valve to Filter.



WHAT MONTH SHOULD I OPEN MY POOL?

You should open your pool during any month before the water temperature reaches 70 degrees for most of the day. Algae can grow fast at these temperatures, so the sooner you shock your pool, the better.

4. **Turn systems back on:** Prime the pump and turn the filtration and circulation systems back on. Let the air escape from the air relief valve (if you have one) until water spurts out, then close it. Check all equipment for cracks, strange noises or leaks
5. **Add a pool solution:** Add a pool solution to prevent staining from metals like copper or iron that may have accumulated in your pool while it was closed, and follow the directions for use.
6. **Test the pH:** Use a test kit to test the pool's pH (which should be 7.4 – 7.6), calcium hardness (200 – 400 ppm), free available chlorine (2.0 – 4.0 ppm), and total alkalinity (80 - 120 ppm). Balance your water to get it to the appropriate levels, starting with the total alkalinity. If your total alkalinity is too high, add acid; if it's too low, add a solution to boost it. Test your pH again once you have gotten your total alkalinity under control.
7. **Clean the pool thoroughly:** Give the pool a good cleaning using the vacuum and brush, taking special care to remove any dirt or residue that may be hiding on the ladder, steps, lights or other crevices.
8. **Run the filtration system:** Run your filtration system for 10 hours to remove the remaining dirt in the pool.
9. **Shock the pool:** **Use a chlorine-based** solution to kill any bacteria.

Professionals Are Here to Help

If any of these pool maintenance tasks seem a little too daunting, it is never a bad idea to call your trusted independent builder to provide these services for you.

[Speak to a Builder](#)