

### A Guide To Swimming Pools

If a pool is painted without care a host of problems are likely to occur. Always remember that a pool is a specialised structure and should not be treated as just another wall to be painted. For various technical reasons, most paints do not last when submerged in water. Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint is a carefully selected blend of chlorinated rubber, pigment and solvent. In its dried form it will withstand constant immersion in normal pool water providing both an attractive decorative finish and a long life protective finish.

Our Technical Services Department can provide information for particular application and ancillary items such as steel support structure over indoor pools. Please contact us on 01462 421333.

### Preparation

Surfaces to be painted should be free from nibs, cavities and other imperfections. Mould, oil stains, if any, must be removed. Moisture content of concrete should be below 14% prior to application of any coating.

#### **New unpainted concrete pools**

If a swimming pool is being constructed with a view to treatment with Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint a uniform wood float finish to the concrete is preferable to a steel trowled finish, which is more likely to produce a film of laitance or scum on the surface and may lead to poor adhesion or blistering of the enamel. To prevent back pressure the construction of the pool should have included a waterproof membrane on the soil side.

Allow the structure to dry out thoroughly before painting (normally at least 28 days). The surfaces should then be treated with acid etch diluted three times with clean water.

Wet the surface with fresh clean water from a hosepipe and then apply the acid etch with a sweeping brush or turks head brush. The operator should wear rubber boots and gloves and wear suitable eye protection. The surface will foam vigorously and bubble. When the reaction has subsided, hose down to wash away loose particles of sand and all soluble materials until the washings are totally clean then leave at least 24 hours to dry out (i.e. less than 7% moisture content). If in any doubt contact Promain Technical Services.

#### **Previously Painted Pools**

If the pool was previously painted with Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint and is in good condition, it is safe to proceed after scrubbing down to remove dirt etc. and roughen the surface to help adhesion. Old perished Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint coatings must be removed by thorough scraping. All loose edges should be removed. After many years wear and tear it may become necessary to remove all the old coatings by grit blasting (using a suitable abrasive).

Finally, remove all debris and dirt. If a pool is in a hard water area, white carbonate deposits will be clinging to the old paint after cleaning down. These should be removed using acid etch diluted three times with water.

### Application

Application conditions for Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint must receive careful consideration, the weather being one of the chief factors. A warm, but cloudy day is ideal as it is not desirable to apply the coating in direct sunlight. Never work when the concrete is damp (as with morning dew or after rain) or if rain is likely before the paint will have had time to dry.

**Application of first coat:** On new pools, thin the first coat of Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint (approximately 10% by volume) to aid penetration into the concrete. If the pool is already painted there is no need to thin the first coat. Apply either by brush or short pile roller. Do not attempt to use spray equipment. For ease of access first paint the sides and then complete the floor. Take care not to apply too thickly, especially on the floor. (Use the coverage guide to make sure you use the correct amount of paint - see tin for details).

Do not apply to damp surfaces. Do not use on very hot or very windy days. Avoid excessive film builds especially

on the base of the pool as this may lead to solvent entrapment due to a thick film being applied and subsequent 'blisters' causing failure of the coating.

**Application of the second coat:** After leaving the first coat to dry for a minimum of 24 hours (but preferably 48 hours) apply an unthinned coat of Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint. Do not overwork the paint otherwise the first coat will be disturbed too much. Some "bite" into the first coat is quite normal.

**Application of the third coat if required:** After leaving the second coat to dry for a minimum of 24 hours (but preferably 48 hours) apply a third coat of Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint. Do not overwork the paint otherwise the second coat will be disturbed too much. Some "bite" into the second coat is quite normal.

### Filling the Pool With Water

Leave the pool for a minimum of 14 days before filling with water. If this is ignored, entrapped solvent will cause small blisters to form in the paint. Indoor pools should be well ventilated during this time. The solvent is heavier than air therefore it may be necessary to use forced ventilation in deep indoor pools.

Tile or mosaic pools: We do not recommend the painting of these surfaces under any circumstances.

### Notes

We are unable to guarantee compatibility with other manufacturers paints. In general, however, Centrecoat Chlorinated Rubber Swimming Pool Paint will be satisfactory on another pure chlorinated rubber pool paint in good condition. We do not recommend it to be applied over existing acrylic, vinyl or cement based pool paints.

All drying/curing times are based on 20°C.

All coatings to be applied in accordance with relevant technical and health and safety data sheets.