

AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint **Application Guide**

AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint is a two-component, solvent based, polyamide cured epoxy swimming pool paint. It is designed for use in fresh water, salt water or chlorinated swimming pools & water features - new or old.

AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint adheres exceptionally well to concrete, fibreglass, marbelite plaster, gunnite and cement plaster surfaces. It provides a tough, glossy surface resistant to the normal abrasion from pool use and maintenance and is resistant to pool chemicals, salt, and dilute acids.

AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint is a very high solids epoxy with minimal shrinkage on curing and can be applied directly to most surfaces without priming.

IMPORTANT – Before starting paint application, follow all instructions in this application guide. Failure to follow instructions could result in coating failure.

Important Tips

Do not apply this coating over any chlorinated rubber or water-based pool paints.

All pool paints should only be applied over the same type of paint which is currently on the pool. To test for the type of coating on the pool, wipe on some Solvent Alcohol and Xylol in an inconspicuous area. If the coating softens under the alcohol, it is probably a water-based coating. If the coating softens under Xylol it is probably a chlorinated rubber. If there is no softening it is more than likely an epoxy.

Do not paint in direct sunlight

Painting a very hot surface in direct sunlight will cause blistering and pinholes due to a rapid evaporation of the solvents in the paint. For best results, paint when the sun's rays are very low, apply in the shade or very early in the day when the sun is rising.

Do not paint if rain is expected within 16 hours @ 25°C

Dampness, rain, and excessive humidity will retard the painting curing time required before filling the pool. Do not apply to green concrete.

Do not use muriatic acid on any painted surface

Muriatic acid should only be used if necessary on bare masonry to get a slight profile prior to painting.

Prepare painted surfaces adequately.

Proper surface preparation is critical to obtaining a satisfactory paint job. There are no shortcuts, even if the pool has been sandblasted, it is still necessary to follow the cleaning instruction recommendations.

Do not apply heavy coats of paint

This will cause blisters, chalking, peeling and other premature failures.

Do not fill the pool before the paint has completely cured

Provide fans and power ventilation while drying. Allow paint to dry for a minimum of 10 days @ 25°C after final the coat is applied, before filling pool. For indoors pools, allow 20 days drying time before filling the pool.

Ventilate and use forced air, fans, or blowers to move static air and remove solvent vapours that will collect in low lying areas. Be sure to direct at least one fan down into the pool as well as across for complete circulation. Solvent vapours are heavier than air and will collect in the pool area and prevent proper curing of the pool coating. This will lead to premature failure.

Surface Preparation

Any imperfections such as cracks, holes and gouges should be filled with proper patching materials suitable for pool use. The performance of this product will depend upon the degree of surface preparation done. Prior to paint application, all surfaces should be assessed and treated in accordance with ISO 8504:2000.

Accumulated dirt and soluble salts must be removed. Dry bristle brushing will normally be adequate for accumulated dirt. Soluble salts should be removed by freshwater rinsing. Oil or grease should be removed in accordance with SSPC-SP1 solvent cleaning. The pool surface to be painted must be free from all oil, grease, wax, dust, dirt, mildew, suntan oils, and any other foreign contaminants before painting.

Steel Surfaces:

Steel surfaces should be abrasive blast cleaned. Abrasive blast clean to Sa2½ (ISO 8501-1:2007) or SSPC-SP6. If oxidation has occurred between blasting and the application of AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint, the surface should be re-blasted to the specified visual standard. To prevent any oxidation **Blast Hold Corrosion Inhibitor** can be used during or post blast cleaning.

Surface defects revealed by the blast cleaning process should be ground, filled, or treated in the appropriate manner. A surface profile of 40 - 75 microns is recommended.

Concrete / Marbelite / Gunnite Or Cementitious Surfaces:

Please note that newly built concrete pools should not be painted for a minimum of 60 days after construction has been completed in order for the concrete to cure completely first.

All concrete, marbelite, gunnite or cementitious surfaces to be coated must be dry, firm, solid and free from dust, oil, fats, loose particles, or other contaminants.

After having cleaned thoroughly, the surface must be etched with a 10% solution of Concrete Etch & Cement Remover using a plastic sprinkling pail, evenly applied over the surface. The acid solution will start to bubble slightly (effloresce) as it is working on the surface. When the bubbling stops, usually after about 10-15 minutes, hose down with plenty of clean fresh water making sure all acid solution residue is removed. It is highly important to ensure all traces of the acid are neutralized and rinsed away – use a solution of Concrete Neutralizer – 500gm to 20Lt of water.

When acid etching it is important to wear proper PPE – gloves, goggles, a respirator for fumes and a long sleeve shirt and full-length pants with shoes.

Always work in small sections at a time. This will prevent the acid from drying on the surface. This process may have to be repeated several times until the concrete stops reacting when the Concrete Etch & Cement Remover is applied.

Properly prepared surfaces should feel like fine sandpaper when finished.

The pool must dry thoroughly after cleaning prior to the application of AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint. A good test to do in order to make sure the pool is dry enough for painting is to tape down a 50 X 50mm piece of clean plastic film on the bottom of the pool surface and check for condensation after 24 hours. If there is condensation under the plastic, the pool is not dry enough to paint. The pool must dry for at least 7 days after cleaning before paint can be applied.

Fibreglass

All fibreglass surfaces to be painted should be dry, firm, solid and free from dust, oil, or any other contaminants. Using a dilute solution of Hydrosolve Degreaser thoroughly clean surfaces & hand scrub water lines where oils from sun lotions tend to migrate. Then thoroughly flush the surface with water ensuring all traces of the Hydrosolve Degreaser is rinsed away and allow to dry.

Once the surface is completely dry, sand the surface with 150 – 180 grit sandpaper or equivalent and thoroughly rinse off sanding dust and allow to dry for 24 hours before application of AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint.

Previously Painted Pools:

Painting over many old layers of pool paint is not recommended and could result in premature adhesion loss. Once multiple layers (4 or more) of paint have been applied and have aged, consideration should be given to removing all old layers back down to the substrate prior to the next application of paint. When in doubt, check the adhesion of the previous layers before painting.

The pool surface to be painted must be free from all oil, grease, wax, dust, dirt, mildew, suntan oils, and any other foreign contaminants before painting. All loose scaling or peeling paint or badly deteriorated surfaces must be sand blasted for proper paint removal and preparation, or grinded with diamond grinders.

All holes, cracks, surface breaks or gouges must be repaired using proper patching materials. Most repair products are available from your local pool supply store. Wash all surfaces with a solution of Hydrosolve Degreaser and pay special attention to the water line and any steps to be painted - these areas tend to accumulate the greatest amount of floating oil residue and other contaminants like suntan lotions and dirt. The use of a high-pressure washer is extremely helpful but scrubbing the waterline areas and steps is required to properly prepare the surface. When using a high-pressure water washer use a low pressure setting to avoid damaging the pool surface. Rinse thoroughly after cleaning. The surface must then be sanded with 150 – 180 grit sandpaper or equivalent. Thoroughly rinse off all sand dust and allow to dry for 24 hours.

Application:

Conditions for application:

Do not apply when the relative humidity exceeds 85% or when the surface to be coated is less than 3°C above the dew point.

Method of mixing:

Stir the components of Comp.A and continue stirring while gradually adding the total contents of Comp.B. Stir for 3 minutes until a smooth homogenous mix is attained.

Pot Life:

AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint has a usable life of 3 hours @ 25°C. The larger the mix, the higher the exotherm and shorter the pot life. Once mixed the contents should be applied swiftly. If applying by roller or brush, empty contents onto the surface and spread. If applying by airless spray, ensure the materials are used well before its usable life to avoid having the paint harden in the machine.

Application of your first coat:

When applying onto porous surfaces such as concrete, marbelite, gunnite or cementitious surfaces, the first coat should be thinned with 25% SA65 Thinner – this will ensure proper wetting and penetration of the paint. Thinning the first coat will not be necessary over metal, fibreglass, or previously painted surfaces.

The first coat should be allowed to dry for 24 hours @ 25°C before applying the second coat.

Application of your second coat:

Apply the second coat of AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint unthinned, keeping the coat as close to the recommended wet film thickness (WFT) as possible.

Applying too thick a coat or excessive coats can result in paint blistering. AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint contains fast evaporating solvents, and if you over roll the paint, it will create pin holes and the finish will look coarse and rough.

Application with roller or brush:

If you are painting with a roller, it is recommended to use a thick nap or nylon epoxy roller. Do not use a long nap roller as it will put too much paint on the surface and cause blistering. Applying too heavily will cause premature coating failure.

When using brushes, it is recommended to use a good quality brush.

Application by spray:

Both conventional and airless spray equipment can be used for spray application, however airless spray equipment will provide the best application and results.

For airless spray application a minimum 45:1 Pneumatic Airless Pump is required for application. A tip size between 17 to 35 thou is recommended. When applying with an airless sprayer normally no thinning is required, however on warm days you may lose solvent through evaporation. You should add the necessary solvent to maintain consistency.

Clean Up:

All cleaning can be done with SA65 Thinners.

Final Notes:

You must allow the final coat of AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint to dry thoroughly before filling the pool. The final coat must dry for at least 10 days @ 25°C, and you must provide forced ventilation over the painted surface using fans or blowers. When painting indoor pools, you must let the final coating of paint dry for 20 days using the same power ventilation.

Pool paint contains solvents that are heavier than air and if you do not use forced air fans or blowers to ventilate the pool surface area these solvents will sit trapped in the pool and prevent the pool paint from curing properly. This will lead to premature failure of the paint.

If you desire a more slip resistant surface for pool steps or other areas, add approximately 500 grams of Non-Slip Aggregate to 5Lt of the AquaSport Epoxy HS Swimming Pool Paint.

Coverage

Typical Film Thickness:

100 - 125 µm DFT / Coat or 135 - 165µm WFT / Coat
Apply 2 coats to achieve 200 - 250µm DFT

Spread Rate:

3.00 m² / Lt at 250 µm DFT

Material loss during application and mixing will vary by project but should be taken into consideration when estimating the project requirements

Refer to pool calculator sheet for exact qty's required.