

OPERATOR DAILY ROUTINE

Pool & spa — the daily test card.

Pocket-format daily test card covering free chlorine, pH, alkalinity, calcium hardness, cyanuric acid and combined chlorine. With the target band on every line and the action when outside.

How to use

Print one card per pool. Same operator, same time of day (08:00 recommended). All eight readings before any dosing. If three or more readings are outside band, escalate — do not adjust eight variables at once.

Parameter	Target band	Today	Action if outside
Free chlorine (pool)	1.0–3.0 mg/L	_____	Dose 5 g/m ³ HTH per 0.5 mg/L below target
Free chlorine (spa)	3.0–5.0 mg/L	_____	Reduce dosing — check cyanuric acid
pH	7.2–7.6	_____	Above: muriatic acid 50 mL/m ³ . Below: soda ash 30 g/m ³
Total alkalinity	80–120 mg/L	_____	Adjust with sodium bicarbonate; expect 24-h response
Calcium hardness	200–400 mg/L	_____	Below 150: dose CaCl ₂ . Above 500: partial drain + refill
Cyanuric acid	30–50 mg/L	_____	Above 100: 25% partial drain. Below 20: dose CYA
Combined chlorine	< 0.4 mg/L	_____	Above target: shock chlorinate to 10x free Cl
Salt (if salt-pool)	2500–3500 mg/L	_____	Below: top up. Above: partial drain
Visual clarity	Crystal	_____	Cloudy: backwash filter, check ORP
Water temperature	26–30 °C pool	_____	Heat exchanger or solar control

Reference: NSPF Pool & Spa Operator Handbook 2017; WHO Guidelines for Safe Recreational Water Environments Vol. 2, 2006.