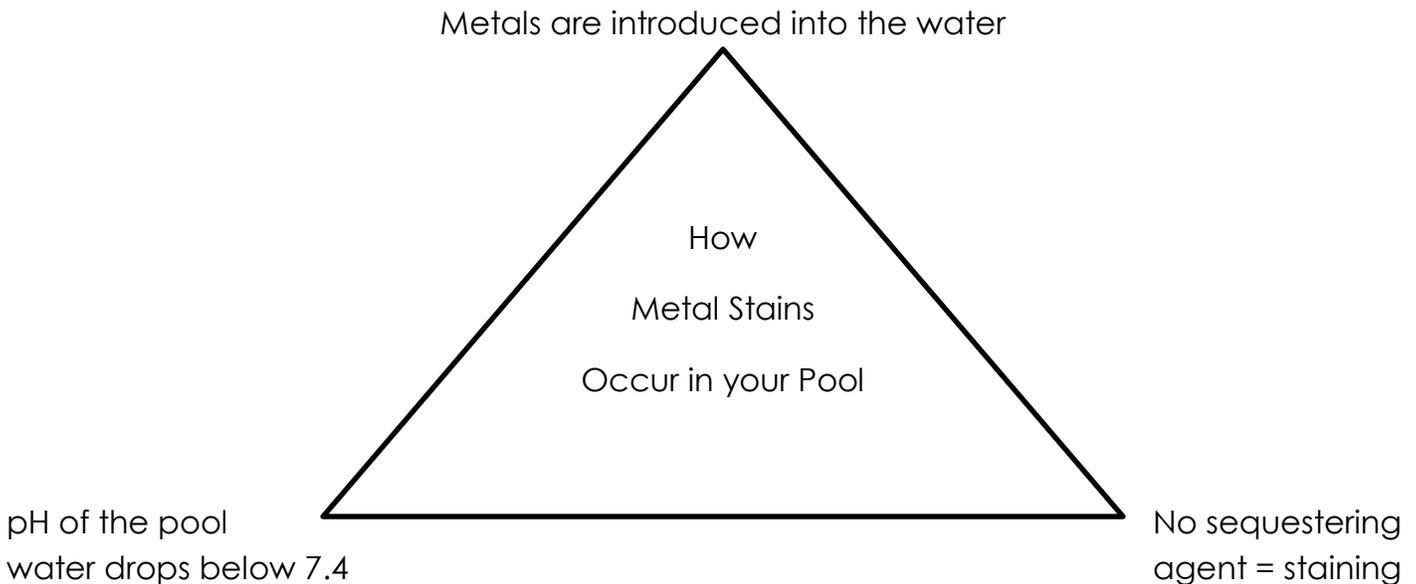




## Recognizing and Treating Stains in an Inground Pool

Pool stains come in many colors, including pink, green, blue, red, orange, violet, brown and black. Because the surface is inert, stains are \*on\* the surface and not \*in\* the surface itself and can be easily removed. Most stains are metallic or mineral based and can be easily treated and prevented once you know how and why they form:

- Many stains in a fiberglass pool are actually caused by METALS in the water
- Metals and minerals are found naturally in all water. Proof of this is seen in the build-up removed from shower doors, toilet bowls and water spots produced when the sprinklers get our cars wet.
- Metals collect on the surface of the pool after falling out of suspension in the water, causing the stain.
- A low pH is a major contributor to this problem.
- Failing to maintain a level of metal sequesterant (cleating agent) in the water will cause the metallic deposits to fall out of suspension.



Water Chemistry Questions? Email [water@prestigepoolsandspas.com](mailto:water@prestigepoolsandspas.com)



# PRESTIGE POOLS & SPAS



## Step One: Identifying and Removing the Stain

The first step in resolving any stain issues is identifying the stain itself. To accurately identify a metal deposit, rub a Vitamin C tablet on the affected surface. The stain should instantly dissipate if it's metallic in origin. However, in rare situations the stain may dissipate anywhere from an hour up to an entire day later. If the stain is unchanged after an application of Vitamin C, the stain is unlikely metallic and possibly stubborn algae or organic staining from debris. Seek an algacide (ALGICIL, Algacide 30, etc.) or a surface cleaner (TV-X) to alleviate the discoloration.

The positively charged metal (stain) that is now on the pool shell surface may be removed by ascorbic acid, also known as ASCORB-X. Effective for removing stains, ASCORB-X works best under these conditions:

- Have pH balanced at 7.4 - 7.6 and Alkalinity balanced at 80-150ppm.
- Have chlorine measuring as low as possible, preferably below 1.5ppm.
- Do not shock your pool several days before or after ASCORB-X treatment.
- Sprinkle ASCORB-X over the affected areas. You may need to turn off your filter system for greater accuracy.
- Use 1lb of ASCORB-X per 10,000 gallons of pool water.
- If the staining is heavy the ASCORB-X may need to rest on the affected area for up to 10 minutes. Brushing the affected area may also help loosen the stain. Heavy stains may also require additional treatments.
- Begin circulation again if the filter system was shut down. Follow up with 32oz of STAIN & SCALE CONTROL per every 25,000 gallons of pool water. This begins the process of STAIN PREVENTION

## Step Two: Preventing New Stains

Inhibiting stains is important to avoid needing another stain treatment. Keep in mind that opposites attract, the negatively ionized cleator's, or metal sequesterants, such as STAIN & SCALE CONTROL or STAIN-X helps prevent future metal stains by attaching to the positively charged metals in the water; keeping them suspended in the water and not attaching to pool surfaces.

Weekly doses of STAIN & SCALE CONTROL or STAIN-X will sequester metals, allowing them to be picked up by your filter and removed during cleaning.



# PRESTIGE POOLS & SPAS



## Descriptions and Causes of Common Metallic Deposits

METAL	Source	Compounds	Color
Copper  <b>MOST COMMON</b>	Copper algaecides, copper ionizers, erosion/corrosion of copper plumbing, heat exchangers & copper fittings	Copper Sulfate Cupric Oxide Cuprous Oxide Cupric Chloride Copper Oxychloride Copper Cyanurate	Blue, Dark Blue Or Aqua Black Reddish-Brown Brownish-Yellow or Green Blue-Green Purple Crystals
Iron  <b>MOST COMMON</b>	Well water, source water, erosion/corrosion of galvanized plumbing, fittings and fasteners, landscape fertilizer	Ferric Chloride Ferric Hydroxide Ferrous Oxide Ferrous Chloride Ferrous Phosphate Ferrous Sulfate	Black-Brown Brown Dark Red Greenish-White Blueish-Grey Greenish Crystals
Aluminum	Erosion/corrosion of fittings, nuts and bolts, trim parts, railings	Aluminum Chloride Aluminum Hydroxide Aluminum Oxide Aluminum Sulfate	White or Yellowish White White White
Calcium	Source water, pool plaster, calcium-based sanitizers	Calcium Carbonate Calcium Hydroxide Calcium Oxide Calcium Sulfate Calcium Phosphate	White Crystals White Crystals White, Grey, White Lumps White Crystalline Powder White Power or Crystals
Magnesium	Source Water	Magnesium Carbonate Magnesium Chloride Magnesium Hydroxide Magnesium Oxide Magnesium Phosphate Magnesium Silicate Magnesium Sulfate	White Powder White Crystals White Powder White Powder White Crystals White Powder White or Clear Crystals
Manganese	Well Water	Manganese Carbonate Manganic Hydroxide Manganous Chloride Manganous Hydroxide Manganous Oxide Manganous Sulfate	Rose Black Rose White to Pink Green Translucent or Pale Red
Nickel	Erosion/corrosion of nickel from heater headers, plated parts, nuts and bolts	Nickel Carbonate Nickel Chloride Nickel Oxide Nickel Nitrate Nickel Phosphate Nickel Hydroxide	Light Green or Brown Brown Green Green Green Black
Titanium	Chlorine-generator electrodes, paint pigment	Titanium Chloride Titanium Sulfate	White White