

The coming autumn is the ideal time to tackle the winterisation of your pool system.

This proves once again the problem-free, low-maintenance and economical wintering of your stainless steel swimming pool system from Berndorf Bäderbau.

Expensive investments in wintering measures, such as pool edge heating, ice pressure pads or inserting objects to break the ice pressure, etc., which are absolutely necessary for pools made of other materials, can be dispensed with.

The stainless steel pools remain filled with water from the previous bathing season. The water in the pool should be checked and corrected before wintering with regard to the pH value and in particular the chloride value in order to avoid major deviations. The addition of a winterising agent facilitates cleaning in spring. Care must be taken to ensure appropriate mixing and distribution of added chemicals before shutting down the circulation.

In most cases, the water level is lowered by approx. 20-30 cm.

Pipes that are at risk of frost as well as fittings and other system parts are drained. This ensures that stainless steel pools are not subject to any frost damage and the associated inspection work.

Additional protective measures for the pool head and the overflow channel are not necessary for stainless steel pools.

Gutter gratings should be removed for winter storage, thoroughly cleaned and stored in a dark and dry place until spring.

Pools with shallow water depth

However, children's paddling pools, walk-through pools, wading pools, etc. are, in deviation from the previous regulation, completely emptied and cleaned during the winter.

A frost-proof design of the foundations should already be taken into account in the implementation planning.

The following is an excerpt from our current Operation and Maintenance Guide to Chapter 3

„Overwintering of stainless steel outdoor pools“.

Please observe the general safety instructions for your pool system and the care and cleaning agents used. care and cleaning agents.

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3 Overwintering of stainless steel outdoor pools

For the overwintering of outdoor pools from stainless high-grade steel, the following measures must be strictly adhered to.

3.1 Pool

As a matter of principle, stainless steel pools may only be overwintered in the filled state. The water surface shall thereby be lowered below the overflow edge by approx. 8 - 12 inches.

The filling water remaining in the pool exerts a counterpressure against the earth pressure or eventually existing geothermal and groundwater. Thus, your pool facility autoprotects itself against any undesirable deformations caused by external force influences. Likewise, the remaining filling water protects your pool foundations against the danger of freezing up.

By lowering the water surface, a storage space for accumulating rain- and meltwater emerges. In the occasion of heavy precipitations, the pool fills and overflowing water flows through the overflow channel into the compensation reservoir. In order to ensure this water can flow off, the surge tank's drainage must be kept open during the winter period. Provided that there is no ice cover in the pool, lower the water surface again.



Please note

If a channel switching device exists, it is to be switched to sewage water system mode during the winter months.



Caution

In order to winterise your pool, open the drainage of the surge tank and leave it open during the winter period as well.

After the last backwashing it is recommended to run the backwater filtration unit with untreated water for a short period in order to have the most neutral water possible in the pool.

Pool with low water depth

Yet, unlike in the aforementioned regulation, children's paddling pools, foot pools, fording pools, etc. are winterised in a completely emptied and cleaned state. A frost-proof design of the foundations should already be considered in the implementation planning.

With stainless steel pools, no additional protective means for the pool bowl or the overflow channels such as ice pressure pads, etc. are necessary.

3.2 Overwintering agents

In order to minimise calcium or algal deposits, an overwintering agent shall be admixed with the filling water over the winter. When the filling water is comparably hard (from 25 °e, corresponding to 3.566 mmol/l), the use of appropriate agents eases spring cleaning.

The permissible chloride content must not be exceeded by admixing an overwintering agent. If you use an overwintering agent, apply it while the circulating pump is running in order to achieve an optimal mixing of the filling water. Avoid direct admixing to the pool at only one spot.

Please note

If an overwintering agent is used, the manufacturer's general safety and processing guidelines must be strictly adhered to.

Caution

For any procedure in which problematic substances accrue, all relevant regulations concerning environmental protection, water pollution control, etc. must be followed. Please contact your wastewater management company.

3.3 Filling water for the overwintering

After discontinuation of pool operation, the chloride and the pH value of the water contained in the pool must be determined, and in case of deviations from the maximum permissible value, corrected (see chapter „STAINLESS STEEL POOLS AND WATER CHEMISTRY“ and chapter „POOL FILL-IN“).

3.4 Mounting parts

Loose mounting parts such as separation lines, lane lines and similar installations must be removed and appropriately overwintered. Also see the manufacturer-specific operating and care instructions.

Pool covers are to be treated conform to the manufacturer's data.

For overwintering purposes, **channel cover grates** from plastic shall be removed, thoroughly cleaned and stored in a dark and dry place until springtime. This will save you a second cleaning of the channel grates in spring additionally becoming necessary due to rotten foliage and tannin formation on the grate elements.

Channel cover grates from stainless steel or stone covers do not need to be removed for overwintering purposes. In order to clean the channels, remove them section by section and insert them again into their respective spot afterwards.

If for **special cover grates** a removal is recommended by the manufacturer, the corresponding manufacturer-specific maintenance instructions must be followed.

 **Please note**

When you take out your channel grate elements from the channels for overwintering and storage, number any single element from a predetermined starting point. This will allow you to install the elements at the right place when reinstalling.

 **Caution**

Despite utmost care in their production and the use of high-quality materials, the grate elements are subject to maximum stress levels. In order to avoid accidents, any defective grate element should be replaced immediately.

Piping systems subject to freezing as well as fittings and other facility parts are to be emptied. Piping systems which cannot be emptied and are situated in areas subject to freezing are to be protected either by a frost protection heater (at 41° F) or by additional insulation of the piping systems.

Pipe sockets of flow waterjets, massage jets and sample water tapping points, etc. as well as air intake sockets must be closed with the sealing plugs you will find in your service box so that the pipes can be emptied. Endless pools are to be locked and emptied according to the manufacturer's data.

 **Caution**

Avoid any loss of filling water with an ice cover present.