



Swimming Pool Leak gathering information

To determine whether your water loss is due to a leak or evaporation, one can do a simple **Bucket Test**.

1. Fill your pool to its normal level.
2. Fill a bucket with water from the pool and secure it in the pool with the top of the bucket above the water level (i.e. put it on the stairs or secure it to the ladder). Do not cover the bucket!
3. Mark the pool water level and the level of the water in the bucket.
4. Operate the pool as you usually would and in 24 hours measure the pool level and bucket level again.
 - a. If the water loss from the bucket and the pool is the same, you do not have a leak and you are losing water due to evaporation.
 - b. If the water loss in the pool is greater than the water loss of the bucket, you do have a leak.

Pump On/ Pump Off Test

5. If you wish to take the testing further yourself to try and determine where the leak is, try doing the bucket test with the pump on and then with the pump off.
 - a. If the loss when the pump is on is greater than the loss when the pump is off, the most common suspect is the pressure plumbing
 - b. If the loss when the pump is on is less than the loss when the pump is off, the most common suspect is the suction plumbing.
 - c. If the loss is the same in both tests, the most common suspect is the structure itself.

To determine approximately how much water is being lost due to the leak, use this equation:

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Inches of water} \\ \text{lost due to leak} \\ \text{(Pool loss - Bucket loss)} \end{matrix} \times .62 \text{ gallons/inch/sq. ft} \times \text{Square footage} \\ \text{of pool surface}$$

Your final answer is approximately how many gallons your pool is losing per day.

Also, take a look at and around the pool for visible leak signs.

1. Any visible water coming out of the equipment?
2. Are there tiles popping out?
3. Are there mushy spots in the lawn?
4. Are there air bubbles in the pump or going into the pool?
5. Is there water getting buy the filter valve and going out the backwash/waste line?

Before calling us about a leak, here is the preliminary info to gather and have available about your pool:

1. Type of pool
2. Age of pool
3. Builder of pool
4. How often the pool is used
5. Is there a spa attached?
6. Do you have...In-floor cleaner lines? Waterfalls? Fountains? A Solar Heater?
7. Has there been recent construction activity to the pool or around the pool?
8. Have there been any big recent natural occurrences (i.e. exceptionally cold winter, big wind storm knocking trees down)?
9. What leak detections have you done?
10. How much water are you losing in a day?