

# INSL-X®



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT INSL-X POOL PAINTS

### 1. *“I’ve made the decision to paint my pool. Which Insl-x Pool Paint should I use?”*

There are a number of factors to consider. The most important being: Is there a previous paint on the pool already? If so, try to determine what type of paint was last used.

- Epoxy (IG4000 Series) can only be used over another solvent based epoxy
- Chlorinated Rubber (CR2600 Series) can only be used over another chlorinated rubber. **Note:** The CR2600 Series is not available in many areas of the country due to VOC restrictions
- Synthetic Rubber Based (RP2700 Series) can only be used over a chlorinated rubber or another rubber based pool paint
- Water Borne (WR1000 Series) can be applied over any previous pool paint

Another important factor is how the pool will be used. Public pools tend to be maintained with higher levels of chlorine, making the Epoxy or Chlorinated Rubber products a better choice due to their higher chemical resistance. However, all four pool paints are designed to perform well in public as well as residential pools.

### 2. *“Can I paint my hot tub?”*

Due to the extended elevated temperatures, we do not recommend painting spas and hot tubs.

### 3. *“What’s the best pool paint for previously unpainted fiberglass?”*

We recommend that only the Insl-x Epoxy Pool Paint be used for fiberglass pool shells.

### 4. *“What’s the best pool paint for previously unpainted metal pools?”*

We recommend that only the Insl-x Epoxy Pool Paint be used for a steel pool shell. We do not recommend painting stainless steel, aluminum, or galvanized metal pools.

### 5. *“What colors are available in the Insl-x Pool Paints?”*

All lines come in White, Black, Aquamarine, Ocean Blue (a light blue) and Royal Blue (a darker blue). Some of the lines also have a Red. See [www.insl-x.com](http://www.insl-x.com) to view the colors available.

**6. “What do I need to do to prepare the pool for painting?”**

There are extensive steps involved in properly preparing your pool for painting. There are different procedures for previously painted surfaces as opposed to pool shells that do not have a previous coating. In both cases, a thorough high pressure cleaning is best using a heavy duty cleaner and degreaser such as Insl-x Citrus Based Cleaner. Previously painted pools will likely then require an abrasive sanding with the grit size dependant upon which paint is to be used. Bare masonry surfaces may require acid etching and metal surfaces may require a primer. **Do not acid etch a previously painted surface.** Consult the Technical Data Sheet for the Insl-x Pool Paint you’ll be using for specific surface preparation steps. All data sheets can be found at [www.insl-x.com](http://www.insl-x.com).

If the previous paint is blistering and peeling, or if there are more than 4 older layers of paint present, consideration should be given to complete removal of the old paint before repainting.

**7. “Why is abrasive sanding necessary?”**

In order to assure excellent adhesion of the new paint to the old, some abrasion is necessary to create a slight profile. The degree of abrasion (grit size) is dependant on the type of paint being used and the type of paint you’re going over. Remember, fully cured pool paints are hard & slick. However, sanding in between newly applied coats of pool paint is not required.

**8. “How many coats of paint should I apply?”**

Always apply two coats of paint to ensure complete sealing of the substrate or the previous coating.

**9. “How much paint will it take for two coats of Insl-x Pool Paint?”**

First, calculate the total square footage of surface area to be painted. Remember, this is not simply the length of the pool times the width. (Insl-x Technical Service can assist with making these calculations, if necessary.) Pool paint applied directly to a masonry substrate may require a spread rate of 250-300 sq.ft. per gallon. Repaints and the second coats of two coat applications will require 350-400 sqft per gallon.

Example: A 30’ x 10’ rectangular shaped pool with an average depth of 5’ will have about 730 sqft of paintable surface area. If a previous coating is present, each coat should take about 2 gallons of pool paint or 4 total gallons for two coats.

**10. “Can I spray the Insl-x Pool Paint?”**

Yes, any of the pool paints can be sprayed, rolled or brushed. If spraying, we recommend back-rolling to ensure a consistent film build.

**11. “How much time do I have to apply the Epoxy Pool Paint?”**

The Insl-x Epoxy Pool Paint is a two-component material, requiring equal parts of a Base A component and a Part B activator. These components must be thoroughly stirred up and then combined and mixed with a mixing blade attached to a drill. Once mixed and allowed to “sweat in” for 30 minutes, you have about 6-8 hours of “pot life” at ambient temperatures in order to apply the epoxy before it starts to thicken and turn solid. So make sure to only mix up as much paint as can be applied in that time frame.

***12. “The instructions say not to paint in direct sun. This is tough to avoid!”***

Yes, we agree. The east wall of your pool can be painted in the morning while that wall casts a shadow and the west wall can be painted in the late afternoon. In the other areas of the pool, do the best you can. Always apply Insl-x Pool Paints in temperatures between 50 °F and 85 °F.

***13. “How long do I have to wait between coats?”***

Assuming ambient temperatures (70-80° F), the Epoxy Pool Paint can be recoated in approximately 4-6 hours. The Chlorinated Rubber Pool Paint and the Synthetic Rubber Based Pool Paint both require 24 hours before recoating. The Water Borne Pool Paint can be recoated in 4-6 hours.

***14. “O.K., the paint is on! When can I refill my pool?”***

Be patient! Allow at least 7 days after the final applied coat before filling the pool with water. 10-14 days for indoor pools. Provide forced air flow by using fans to circulate air in the pool. This is especially important in the deep end of an indoor pool, where solvent vapors from the pool paint will collect and slow final curing.

***15. “What if it rains within the 7 days?”***

If this happens, pump the water out of the bottom of the pool as soon as you safely can. As long as the pool paint has at least a day to dry before getting hit by rain, it should be fine. Just don't let it sit under any water for any longer than necessary. Important: Do Not cover the pool with a tarp to protect it from the rain. This does more harm than good by trapping solvent in the paint and not allowing the paint to cure properly.

***16. “Once I refill the pool, can I shock it with chlorine right away?”***

This could cause the color of the pool paint to prematurely fade in spots due to exposure to concentrated chlorine. We recommend adding shock through a chlorinator or pouring into the skimmer so it can dilute before hitting the painted surfaces of the pool.

***17. “How long will my pool paint last?”***

This is a good question. There are many factors that affect the life of the pool paint, including: number of coats applied, climate, strength of chlorination, chemical balance, exposure to direct sun, color selection, amount of pool use and cleaning schedules. With this many variables, it's impossible to predict a pool paint's life. We can tell you that Insl-x Pool Paints have been proven in the pool painting market for over 50 years and have been applied to tens of thousands of pools around the country. Depending on conditions, you should expect anywhere from 3 to 5 years before having to repaint.

Additional information on all Insl-x Pool Paints can be found at [www.insl-x.com](http://www.insl-x.com). You can also call Insl-x Technical Service at 1-866-708-9180 with any other questions you may have about our products.