



PLUNGIE CARE GUIDE

# Plungie Care Guide

Initial Start-Up + Pool Maintenance



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This information is offered as a general guide only, and specific advice should always be sought from your local pool shop.

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# — Before you dive in!

## Register your Plungie

Welcome to the Plungie family! Before you dive in and make a splash, be sure to register your Plungie.

Please take a moment to register your Plungie. This will allow us to contact you in regards to important product notifications and ensure that you enjoy your Plungie for many years to come.

Prior to registering, you will need the URN that is located within the skimmer box of your Plungie.

**To register please go to:**

<https://plungie.com/en-us/more-info/register-your-plungie>

## Register your Plungie

Please complete the information below for your records and register your details online via the link above.

Name: .....

Date of purchase: .....

Plungie model:    Arena       Studio       Original       Max

Installation:    In-Ground       Semi Recessed       Above Ground

Date of installation: .....

Address of installation: .....

.....

.....

Dealer: .....

Builder: .....

URN: .....

(URN located within the skimmer box)

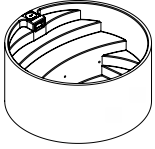


Click here to download a copy of your Plungie Warranty

# Product Specifications

## Plungie Model

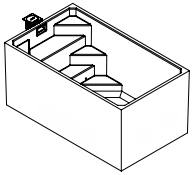
### Arena



[Download Arena Spec Sheet](#)

Diameter	External 11' 5"	Internal 10' 10"
Height	External 5' 6½"	Internal 5' 3"
Volume	2,375 gal	
Dry Weight	16,100 lbs	
Bench Space	34 sqft	

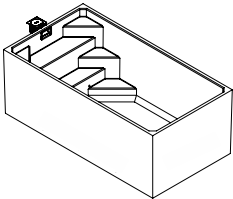
### Studio



[Download Studio Spec Sheet](#)

Length	External 12'	Internal 11' 5"
Width	External 7'	Internal 6' 5"
Height	External 5' 6½"	Internal 5' 3"
Volume	2,130 gal	
Dry Weight	14,600 lbs	
Bench Space	18 sqft	

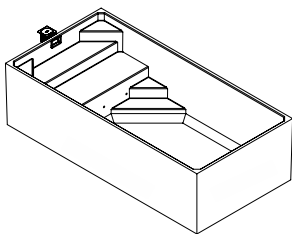
### Original



[Download Original Spec Sheet](#)

Length	External 15'	Internal 14' 5"
Width	External 8'	Internal 7' 5"
Height	External 5' 6½"	Internal 5' 3"
Volume	3,280 gal	
Dry Weight	17,500 lbs	
Bench Space	22 sqft	

### Max



[Download Max Spec Sheet](#)

Length	External 20'	Internal 19' 5"
Width	External 10'	Internal 9' 5"
Height	External 5' 6½"	Internal 5' 3"
Volume	5,335 gal	
Dry Weight	25,600 lbs	
Bench Space	46 sqft	

## Add-ons + Equipment

### Plungie Pool Shell

ecoFinish

ecoFinish Waterline Tile Provision

Raw Concrete Internal

### Modifications + Optional Extras

Spa Jet Packages (Manual & Automatic)

Accessory Holder

Auto Fill

Top Edge ecoFinish

Waterline Tile Provision

Fire Provision

Construction Cover

### Heating / Cooling

Hayward HDF400 Dual-Fuel Gas Pool Heater

AquaComfort Chiller ACT-1750C

### Smart Equipment Package

Hayward MaxFlo 500 VS Pump

Hayward Cartridge Filter 150S

Hayward Chlorinator CL200S

Hayward OmniHub

### Salt Equipment Package

Hayward MaxFlo 500 VS Pump

Hayward Cartridge Filter C150S

Hayward Aquarite S3 Salt Chlorinator

Hayward OmniHub

### AOP+UV Equipment Package

Hayward MaxFlo 500 VS Pump

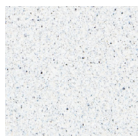
Hayward Cartridge Filter 150S

Hayward Chlorinator CL200S

Hayward Hydrapure

Hayward OmniHub

## ecoFinish



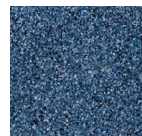
Kona Coast



Sahara Sand



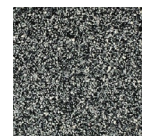
Blue Lagoon



Mediterranean Blue



Grey Reef



French Grey



# Initial Start-Up

## Before filling your Plungie

### Cleaning your Plungie

#### 1. Clean

A thorough clean of the interior surface is required before filling your pool. We recommend a 30:70 hydrochloric acid / water solution to remove any silt or debris that has formed during construction.

Apply the mixture to the ecoFinish surface and gently remove using a soft bristle brush until clean. Immediately wash clean using fresh water supply such as your garden hose.

**Safety Warning:** Before commencing acid washing your pool, ensure you have all the correct PPE and equipment required to do the job and in the right conditions. Acid is a caustic substance that requires specific precautions to ensure safety.

2. Remove all equipment and items from skimmer box.
3. Empty the skimmer filter basket from debris.
4. Ensure the hydrostatic valve is installed.

### What is a Hydrostatic Valve?

During heavy rainfall or flooding ground water pressure builds up underneath the pool shell. If this pressure isn't relieved, your pool may float off of its footing. The hydrostatic valve is a one way valve that releases this ground water pressure into the pool, thus preventing floating. In periods of heavy rain an empty pool is at higher risk of this occurring so our Plungies are delivered with the valve provision in the shell of the pool left open.

### Hydrostatic valve installation

Your hydrostatic valve must be fitted before you fill your pool. The hydrostatic valve is located within your skimmer box, including instructions and a small tool used to fit the hydrostatic valve to ensure a tight seal.

**Important:** Ensure the area around the hydrostatic valve is completely clear of debris before installation. The smallest amount of debris can cause leaks and issues with your pool.

#### Step 8: Fill & Start Up

## Pool safety

There cannot be any compromise on pool safety. Unfortunately, one of the leading causes of accidental deaths and injuries in children happen in or around a pool. Implementing safety precautions and general pool safety knowledge is your best line of defense.

Refer to your local permit office's pool code for safety regulations regarding fencing and CPR signage.

## Initial start-up

### Fill

Fill your pool in accordance with Council requirements, ensuring the pool is filled until the water level is  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  way up the skimmer opening to ensure debris is collected effectively. This may take up to 24 hours depending on the size of your pool.

While the pool is being filled, add McGrayel EasyCare StartUp-Tec dosage as per the [ecoFinish Startup Guide](#). Speak with your local pool shop for an alternative suitable product.

### Initial Balancing

It is important to ensure your pool water is balanced at all times, any issues or damage to your pool surface as a result of poor water chemistry are not covered under warranty.

#### 1. Analyze your water after filling

Take a sample of water to your local pool shop. They will analyze your pool water and recommend the appropriate products and quantities to be added to your pool. Make sure you advise the pool technician of the size or volume of your pool, type of operating equipment installed and the interior finish.

#### 2. Balance

Refer to the [ecoFinish Startup Guide](#) for measurements and recommendations on balancing your pool.

### Initial start-up

Refer to relevant pump and equipment product manuals for general guidance of equipment start-up.

Things to note:

- Never start the pump without water as this may cause damage to the pump.
- Ensure that all plumbing line valves are installed.
- Run the pool filter continuously for the first 24 hours.
- Your pool filtration system should run for 8 hours per day in summer and 4 hours per day in winter (if not in use) to ensure the chemicals work effectively and the water is filtered.

# Pool Maintenance

## Ongoing maintenance

Maintaining your Plungie can improve swimmer comfort and safety. It can also dramatically extend the life of the pool and equipment. Below are some important steps to include in your maintenance routine:

### Daily

- » Use a skimmer net to gather up leaves, insects and any other debris floating on the surface of the pool.

Skimming the surface of your pool takes just a few minutes and keeps water clear. This prevents the leaves from gathering at the bottom of the pool impacting water quality and possible staining.

### Weekly

- » Brush the pool walls and fixtures to remove dirt and prevent the spread of algae and vacuum any debris from the bottom of the pool.
- » Empty and clean the skimmer basket, especially in windy weather where more leaves and debris can fall into the pool.
- » Clean and maintain the pool filter as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- » Balance your pool

### Monthly

- » Check the pool water level is  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  way up the skimmer opening and top-up pool water if necessary.
- » We recommend a monthly service scheduled with your local pool shop.

## Balancing your water

It is important to regularly test the pool water and balance to the recommended levels:

**PH:** 7.2 – 7.6 (Ideal 7.4)

**Total Alkalinity (TA):** 100 – 200 PPM (Ideal 120)

**Calcium Hardness:** 200 – 300 PPM (Ideal 205)

## Caring for your ecoFinish

The maximum water temperature for ecoFinish is 93 degrees Fahrenheit. We do not recommend this internal finish for Plungie's where the water temperature will be consistently at or above 104 degrees.

To protect the lifespan of your internal finish, ensure that your pool water is balanced weekly and the PH, Total Alkalinity and Calcium Hardness parameters are maintained.

## Damage to your ecoFinish

Our ecoFinish pool coating is incredibly strong, yet very flexible polymeric material. If damage does occur to your pool surface, in or out of warranty, let us know the details by completing our online [Plungie Warranty & Defects](#) form and someone from our support team will be in touch.

# Winterizing your Plungie

## Steps to winterizing your Plungie

Winterizing your Plungie pool for winter is crucial for its protection, especially if you reside in a freeze-thaw area. Depending on your location, it's essential to assess whether winterization is necessary to safeguard your Plungie pool. Here's what you'll need and the steps to follow:

### 1. Balance the Water Chemistry:

- » Adjust pH to 7.2–7.6.
- » Maintain alkalinity between 80–120 ppm.
- » Keep calcium hardness within 180–220 ppm.
- » Shock the pool with chlorine shock or non-chlorine shock a few days before closing, following package directions.

### 2. Remove Pool Accessories:

- » Take out skimmer baskets, wall fittings, cleaners, solar blankets, and ladders.
- » Store these items safely for the winter, ensuring cleaner hoses are drained and coiled loosely.

### 3. Thoroughly Clean the Pool:

- » Skim, vacuum, and brush the pool to remove debris.
- » Vacuum to waste if necessary, bypassing the filter to prevent clogging.
- » Brush the pool thoroughly after vacuuming.

### 4. Lower the Water Level and Drain Lines:

- » Using the filter pump or a submersible pump, lower the water level 12 inches below the skimmer. This step helps prevent damage to the skimmer due to expanding ice during freezing temperatures.
- » While it's essential to drain the plumbing lines to prevent freezing, it's equally crucial not to fully empty the pool. Draining the pool entirely can lead to problems like popping or damage to the pool structure. Aim to strike a balance by lowering the water level appropriately while ensuring there's enough water left in the pool to maintain structural integrity.

### 5. Drain Pool Equipment:

- » Drain water from pumps, filters, heaters, and chlorinators using drain plugs or caps.
- » Clean DE filter grids or cartridge filters thoroughly.
- » Remove and store small equipment indoors if possible.
- » Use a blower, compressor, or shop vacuum to remove any remaining water from equipment.

### 6. Lubricate Equipment O-Rings:

- » Apply lubricant to pump lid o-ring and push-pull valve plunger o-rings.
- » Lubricate gas heater cast iron headers and brass plugs, or leave plugs in after draining.
- » Lubricate filter belly band o-rings or union connection o-rings for better sealing.

### 7. Winterize Plumbing:

- » Clear water from plumbing lines using a blower, pushing air from the skimmer through the equipment and back to the pool.
- » Plug lines in the pool with expansion plugs after blowing them out.
- » Add swimming pool antifreeze to lines if not blowing them out.

### 8. Winterize your innoskim:

- » Disassemble the skimmer by removing the lid, basket, and vacuum plate, and make sure to clean and store these parts in a secure location.
- » All open bottom ports should be sealed using standard winter rubber pool plugs to keep out water and avoid ice-related harm. Finally, securely cover the skimmer to block rainwater or snow from entering while ensuring the area remains safe and free from falling or tripping hazards.
- » After the winterization process, your skimmer box should be empty and free of water. It's essential to maintain this condition throughout the winter months. Regularly check the skimmer box to ensure it remains dry, taking measures to remove any rain or debris that may collect and compromise your winterized pool equipment.

While the steps above specifically address winterizing your pool skimmer, it's important to note that you should also follow the appropriate procedures for the rest of your pool equipment.

### 9. Add Winterizing Chemicals:

- » Add winterizing algaecide and floaters, avoiding simultaneous addition of algaecide and chlorine shock.
- » Walk liquid chemicals around the pool for even distribution.

### 10. Cover the Pool:

- » Ensure the cover fits tightly without holes or gaps.
- » Use a safety cover for maximum protection.
- » Secure solid covers with water bags or Aqua Bloks, or use a cable and winch device.
- » Consider using air pillows to absorb ice expansion inside the pool.

### Additional Tips for Maintenance:

- » Balance pool chemistry a week before closing.
- » Clean the pool thoroughly before covering.
- » Monitor the water level periodically during winter.
- » Store pool accessories indoors to protect them from the elements.
- » Invest in a high-quality winter cover for better protection.

Following these steps diligently will help ensure your concrete precast pool remains in excellent condition throughout the winter months.

If you still need assistance with winterization please contact your local pool service company to assist you further.

# FAQs

## Cleaning your pool

### What is ecoFinish?

ecoFinish is an internal high-performance thermo polymer coating that's sprayed and heated onto the internal shell of the pool, forming a completely flexible waterproof membrane that's both luxurious to the touch, and highly durable. To ensure this is done without causing damage to your Plungie please refer to our ecoFinish care instructions within this guide.

## Your local pool shop

Your local pool shop is the best source of information and guidance on your pool care. There are many factors that can affect your pools performance and your local pool shop are the experts in dealing with this.

## Water quality

### My water is looking dull / cloudy, how do I treat it?

Cloudy and murky water can be from a chemical imbalance or several other factors including pool algae, filter maintenance or debris in the pool. It is important to test your pool water regularly, contact your local pool shop for guidance and adjust if required.

### I have algae in my pool how do I treat it?

Unchecked algae growth can turn the swimming pool cloudy or green and results in foul odors and tastes. If you notice algae growth in the pool, then it may need a super chlorination, shock chlorination or algaecide treatment. For any algae treatments we recommend taking a sample of your pool water to your local pool shop for specific guidance.

**Green Algae:** When the pool is tinging green or you cannot see the bottom. A combination of chlorine and chemicals may be required as maintenance.

**Mustard Algae:** If your pool is appearing dusty, yellow or mustard in color it will require balancing and a dosage of "algae eliminator". Ensure this is applied to any leaf rakes, brooms, pool toys and anything that goes into the pool. Repeat "algae eliminator" again in 14 days.

## Balancing your pool

### My supermarket has salt and some chemicals cheap, are they safe to use?

It is important to always use reputable brand-name chemicals, as cheaper products often contain impurities (such as metals) that can stain or even damage pool equipment.

### Can unbalanced water damage my pool equipment?

Yes, unbalanced water may dissolve your pool plumbing and equipment or cause scale formation. Corrosive water can also damage metal parts in contact with the water, as such pool heaters can prematurely fail due to this.

### What impact does rain have on the quality of pool water?

Rain can introduce contaminants from run off and/or air pollution. Contaminants can alter the pH, total alkalinity, phosphate levels, nitrate levels and chlorine levels of your pool water. All of which may affect the water balance and sanitation of the pool in addition to promoting algae growth.

In heavy rain seasons, it is important to test your pool water daily or take a sample each week to your local pool shop.

## Water levels

### Where should my water level be in the pool?

Our recommendation is 1/2 - 3/4 way up the skimmer box.

### I think my pool may be leaking, how can I check?

Your pool can lose 1/4 of an inch per day from normal evaporation, and more with dry air and windy conditions

If you notice a substantial decrease in your pool's water level each day, initially we recommend conducting a bucket test to establish whether it is evaporation or a pool leak.

### How to conduct the bucket test?

1. Ensure that your pool is filled to its normal level, no greater than halfway up your skimmer box. (If you are filling above this point the pool will drain down to middle of the skimmer as there is an overflow drain point at the back of the skimmer)
2. Fill a bucket with pool water, leaving about 3cm from the top
3. Leave the bucket on the first step or just beside the pool
4. Mark the water level with tape on the skimmer face and the inside and outside of the bucket. It might be helpful to take a photo to refer back to
5. Turn your pump back on so it can continue operating normally
6. Compare both levels after 24 hours have passed

If the pool water level that's indicated by the mark on the outside of the bucket is lower than the water level indicated by the mark on the inside of the bucket, you may have a leak and this will require further testing. Keep in mind that the test is no longer valid if it rains, or the water levels are checked after approximately a 24-48 hour period.





[plungie.com/en-us](https://plungie.com/en-us)  
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