



# The 10-Minute Weekly Pool Checklist

Your whole pool routine on one sheet. Print me and stick me by the pool equipment.

## Every week (about 10 minutes)

| Task                                                                                  | Why                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Skim the surface</b> (or let your robot or skimmer do it) | Leaves sink and stain if left                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Empty skimmer and pump baskets</b>                        | Clogged baskets mean poor circulation                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Test free chlorine and pH</b>                             | The two numbers that matter most                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Adjust chemicals if needed:</b> small doses, then retest  | Overcorrecting wastes money                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Run the robot</b> (or brush and vacuum)                   | Keeps debris from settling and staining                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Brush the steps, corners, and waterline</b>               | Algae starts where water moves least                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Check the water level</b> (mid-skimmer is typical)        | Too low can let the pump suck air                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Glance at the pressure gauge;</b> note it below           | A rising reading usually means the filter needs cleaning |

## Target ranges

| Test               | Target                                                            | Source              |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| pH                 | <b>7.0–7.8</b> (most owners aim for the middle)                   | CDC                 |
| Free chlorine      | <b>At least 1 ppm; at least 2 ppm</b> if you use stabilizer (CYA) | CDC                 |
| Total alkalinity   | <b>80–120 ppm</b> ideal (60 minimum, 180 maximum)                 | Taylor Technologies |
| CYA, calcium, salt | Follow your test kit, pool surface, and salt cell manual          | Manufacturer        |

Use a drop-based (DPD) test kit when you can; it's more accurate than strips.

## 4-week log

| Week of | pH | Free Cl | TA | Filter PSI | Acid / chlorine added | Notes |
|---------|----|---------|----|------------|-----------------------|-------|
|         |    |         |    |            |                       |       |
|         |    |         |    |            |                       |       |
|         |    |         |    |            |                       |       |
|         |    |         |    |            |                       |       |



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# Monthly, Storm & Safety Checklist

The less-frequent stuff, so nothing sneaks up on you.

## Every month

- ☐ Test **total alkalinity** (and CYA/salt if you use them)
- ☐ Clean or backwash the **filter** if pressure is running well above your clean baseline (follow your filter's manual)
- ☐ Rinse your **robot's filter basket** thoroughly and check brushes for wear
- ☐ Inspect the **pump lid O-ring**, ladders, rails, and the robot's cord or swivel
- ☐ Check **drain covers** are secure and undamaged

## After a storm or heavy rain

- ☐ Remove debris with a net first, **before** running the robot
- ☐ Check that equipment is dry and undamaged **before** restoring power; call a pro if anything got flooded
- ☐ Lower the water level to normal if it rose
- ☐ Test and rebalance; shock if the water looks cloudy or green

## Hurricane season (June 1–Nov 30)

- ☐ **Don't drain the pool.** Water weight helps keep the shell in the ground.
- ☐ Bring in furniture, toys, and the robot
- ☐ Turn off pool equipment at the breaker
- ☐ Super-chlorinate before the storm

## Safety, always

- ! Wear gloves and eye protection when handling acid or chlorine
- ! **Add chemicals to water, never water to chemicals**
- ! Never mix different pool chemicals together
- ! Poison Control: **1-800-222-1222**

Want the weekly reminder in your inbox? **The Sunday 5-minute pool email** — free at [LazyPoolOwner.com/newsletter](https://LazyPoolOwner.com/newsletter)

Sources: CDC Healthy Swimming ([cdc.gov/healthy-swimming](https://cdc.gov/healthy-swimming)); Taylor Technologies (TA ranges); Florida Swimming Pool Association hurricane preparedness ([fspa.com](https://fspa.com)). General information, not professional advice. Always follow product labels and your equipment manuals. © 2026 Lazy Pool Owner.