

DECK-LOCK™ POOL SHIELD

Installation Guide

Congratulations on purchasing one of the finest pool covers available. Proper installation and care of this cover will ensure many years of use. Please read these instructions completely **BEFORE** you begin.

BEFORE GETTING STARTED:

1. Check to make sure all parts have arrived with the cover.
 - The number of brass anchors, brass insert screws, strap adjustment buckles and springs should each be equal to the number of straps protruding from the edge of the cover.
 - The notched rod included is to connect the springs to the anchors and screws during installation. It is also used during removal.
2. Make sure that you have the necessary tools to complete the installation including:
 - A 3/4" concrete drill bit (diamond type recommended).
 - Heavy duty hammer drill.
 - Tape measure.
 - Chalk line and piece of chalk.
 - Hammer.
 - Wooden block (2x4 scrap will suffice).
 - 1/4" Allen Key.
3. Arranging for a helper or two will make installation faster and easier.

INSTALLATION: RECTANGULAR COVERS - The Pool Shield is approximately 2' longer and 2' wider than the pool area, however for a perfect fit:

1. Check the measurements of your Pool Shield and pool as precisely as possible. Divide the difference between the Pool Shield length and the pool length in half and mark the deck at the ends of the pool this distance from the pool's edge. Two well separated marks at each end will be required. (Figure 1a).
2. Snap chalk line at each end of the pool. The chalk line should extend at least 30" beyond the pool sides (Figure 1b).
3. Perform Steps 1. and 2. using the widths of the Pool Shield and the pool (Figure 2).
4. Locate one corner where two chalk lines cross. Starting at this crossing point measure 16" towards the end of both lines and mark these positions. Do the same at each corner of the chalked rectangle (Figure 3).
5. Drill holes in the deck at the 8 locations marked in Step 4.
IMPORTANT - the depth of the side of each hole should be 1 5/8" so that the brass anchors cannot be set too deep into the deck. A convenient way to measure the depth is to measure 1 5/8" up the side of the drill bit (do not include the portion which tapers to the point) and wrapping tape around the bit so 1 5/8" portion is below tape. When drilling, stop when the lower edge of tape gets to the deck. **CHECK** all holes carefully to ensure the depth is correct or the anchors will protrude above the deck.
6. With the brass insert screws turned fully down into the anchors, insert one anchor in each hole. Place a wooden block on top of the anchor then tap the top of the block with the hammer until the top of the anchor is flush with the deck.

Figure 1 For example, if the pool shield is 30' long and the pool is 28' long, the difference of 2' becomes 1' at each end.

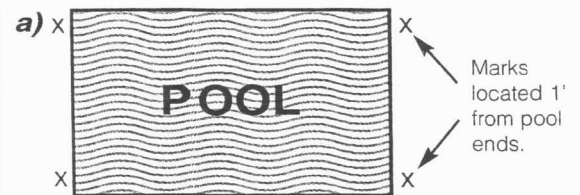


Figure 1

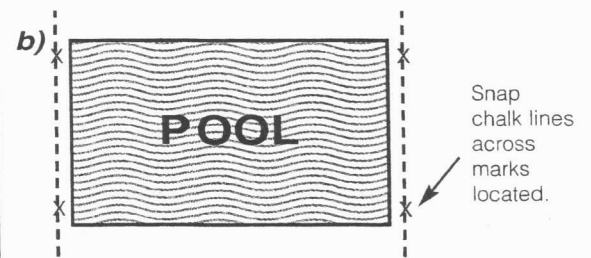
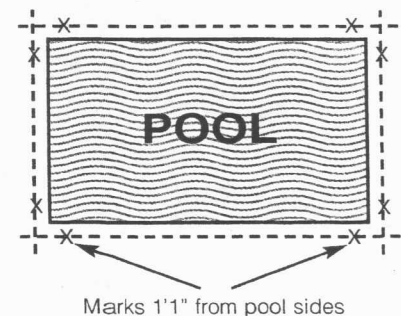


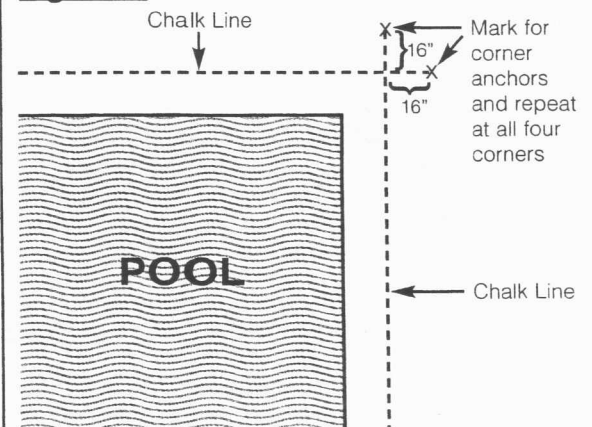
Figure 2 If the Pool Shield is 14'2" wide and the pool is 12' wide, locate the chalk line half of the 2'2" difference of 1'1" from the sides of the pool.



After positions located, snap chalk lines along sides of pool making sure they extend at least 30" beyond ends of pool.

Note When installation is complete, Pool Shield will cover the area enclosed by the chalk lines.

Figure 3



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- Turn the screws out until the tops are about 3/8" above the deck surface.
- Strap adjustment buckles and springs are now attached to the Pool Shield. To prolong the life of the cover, rub strips are attached to the underside of the cover where the straps would otherwise make contact with the deck and coping. The buckles are to be used with the edges pointing downward. From beneath the buckle feed the strap up through the first slot then down through the center slot. Now feed the strap through the squared end of a spring then up through the center slot and down through the third slot. Repeat until all springs and buckles are attached (Figure 4).
- The Pool Shield is now positioned on the pool by hooking the 2 straps at each corner to the corresponding anchors installed in Step 6. The notched rod is used to tension the springs over the brass screws by inserting the rod through the round end of a spring, placing the tab over the end of the screw and pulling the rod to just beyond a vertical position. This compresses the spring and guides it over the top of the screw with minimal effort. Turning the rod until the tab faces the pool will allow removal of the rod without disturbing the spring.
- Adjust the 8 straps until the edges of the Pool Shield are aligned with the chalked lines placed earlier and the springs are compressed by about 50%.
- Snap new chalk lines 16" from the outer edge of the Pool Shield.
NOTE: the ends should be at anchors already in place (Figure 5).
- Extend the straps at the ends of the pool and determine where these would cross the new chalk lines. Mark these locations, drill, insert anchors and screws and hook springs over screws adjusting as needed to keep the Pool Shield within the chalk lines placed earlier (Figure 6).
- Repeat Step 12 along the sides. Adjust the straps so that the shorter ones are not pulling the longer ones off line. Your installation is now complete.

FOR RECTANGLES WITH STEP SECTION:

- If the step section is offset from a corner, complete the installation of the Pool Shield identical to the above Steps 1 through 13.
- The step section, which is a flap attached to the main body cover, can be fastened down by placing your 4 plugs for the two corners similar to that of installing the main cover.

FOR RECTANGLES WITH CORNER STEP SECTIONS:

- If the step section is exactly at a corner, the area must be treated as the widest part when determining the Pool Shield location as per Figure 1 and Figure 2.
- With this type of step section the pool and Pool Shield have 5 corners which must be marked as in Figure 3.
- All other installation steps are the same as listed when installing a straight rectangle.

Figure 4

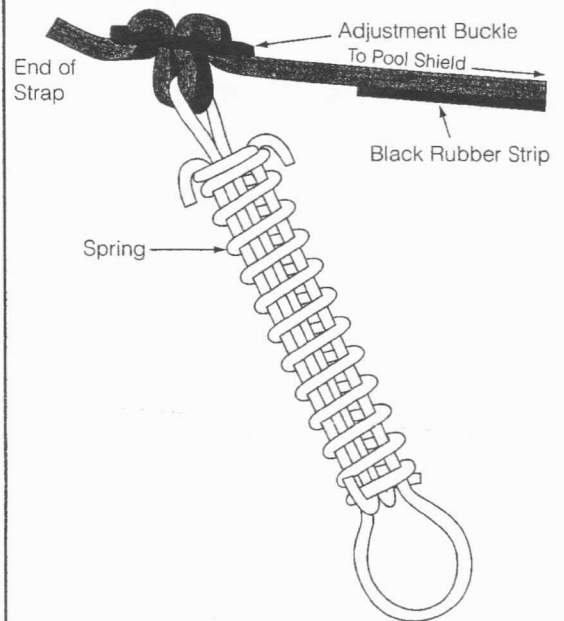


Figure 5 Place chalk lines for locating the placement of the remaining anchors.

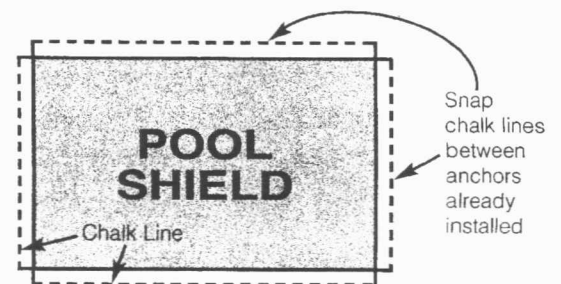
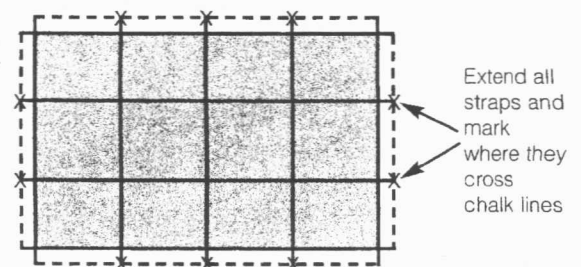


Figure 6 Using unattached straps, mark for brass anchor placement.



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INSTALLATION OF OTHER SHAPES

1. Thoroughly review the procedures for installing a rectangular Pool Shield to become familiar with the parts and processes involved.
2. Attach springs and buckles to straps.
3. Position the Pool Shield over the pool ensuring that the extra material is even around the perimeter.
HINT: Use a piece of chalk to mark the deck at 3' - 4' intervals around the pool, 16" from the edge to use as a guide (Figure 7).
4. Temporarily secure the cover by placing weights on a few of the straps (Figure 8.).
5. Locate one of the longest straps near the center of the cover, measure, mark and drill at both ends 16" from the edge of the cover in line with the strap. Allow a little more than 16" to compensate for any sagging in evidence (Figure 7).
6. Insert anchors, attach springs and perform any adjustment necessary.
7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6 using a centrally located strap which crosses the first one installed, adjusting the shorter strap so that the first one is straight and not pulled to one side or the other (Figure 8a).
8. Working from the center straps toward the edge straps, positions for the anchors are located and drilled, plugs inserted, springs connected and straps adjusted to ensure that previously attached straps are not pulled out of position. To assure best fit, it is recommended that after the first two straps are fastened you proceed by fastening a long strap on either side of the center one, then a short strap on either side of the center one, then two more long ones and so on until all straps are secure (Figure 8b). This will minimize buckling or puckering of the material and result in the neatest installation possible.

POOL SHIELD REMOVAL

1. With the notched rod held vertically, place it over the top of a brass insert screw ensuring that the protruding tab at the end of the rod is on the side of the screw nearest the pool.
2. Turn the rod 180° or a half turn, keeping the tab on the rod between the spring and the screw.
3. Leaning the top of the rod toward the pool will disengage the spring and it will slide up the rod a small distance. Proceed around the pool until one end of each strap is disconnected. The opposite end of each strap can now be removed by hand.
4. Remove the cover, clean, dry and pack. Store where not exposed to the sun and in a location where not accessible to rodents.
5. Use Allen Key to turn brass screws down into the anchors.

NOTE: To prevent dust, dirt etc. from damaging the plug threads it is advisable to coat the screw with a household lubricant.

Figure 7 Marking for placement of shaped or irregular Pool Shield.

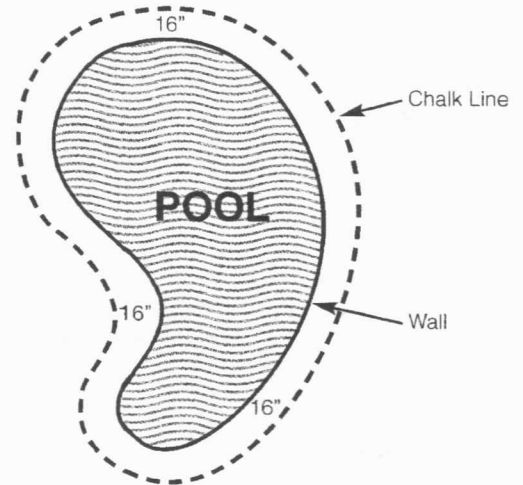


Figure 8 Attaching the initial straps.

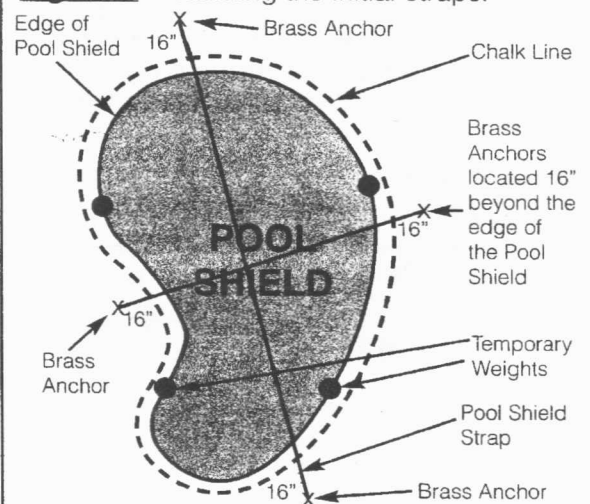


Figure 8 a) Locate brass anchor placement of straps on either side of center strap, drill and install anchors. Secure straps. **Note** Adjust to make sure cross strap remains straight.

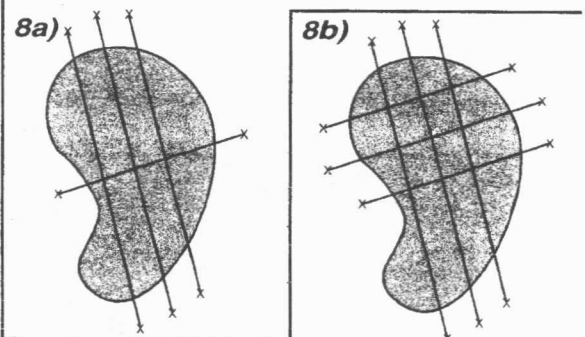


Figure 8 b) Locate brass anchor placement of straps on either side of the first cross strap installed. Drill and install anchors. Secure straps and adjust.

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OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. Installation by pool professionals is recommended.
2. Pool Shields for wooden deck installations are supplied with anchors that are attached to the deck with wood screws. Otherwise, installation is the same.
3. Installation is not recommended on loose stone, interlocking brick, paving stone or lawns unless concrete footings of at least 4" diameter and 3' deep are located so that every anchor can be positioned in the center of such columns.
4. Concrete decks should be at least 4" thick.
5. Pool water level should not be allowed to fall more than 18" below the deck.
6. To maintain a taut fit, straps may require periodic adjustment.
7. It is recommended that the deck and coping areas around the pool which is under the cover be padded with foam, carpet remnants or a similar material to avoid damage to the cover from chafing. Such damage is not covered under the products warranty.
8. **WARNING:** The Pool Shield is one of the most secure fitting covers for swimming pools. However, **Extreme Caution** must be taken when around the pool, even when the Pool Shield is installed. **DO NOT** walk or allow walking on the cover. When walking on the deck around the pool, extra precautions should be taken to avoid tripping on straps, or loosening straps by stepping on them.
While the risk of a person or pet drowning is reduced when a Pool Shield is properly installed, it is not intended to replace careful supervision being exercised within the pool area and we therefore cannot accept responsibility for the occurrence of any form of accident or injury.

In order to maximize the life and performance of your YARD GUARD cover, follow these simple steps when the cover is being stored.

A) FOR THE COVER

1. While the cover is still on the pool just prior to removal, hose the cover thoroughly to remove damaging:
 - dried debris such as leaves, twigs, bird droppings, etc.
 - staining from nearby vegetation, animals, etc.
 - pool water containing chemicals that could in time weaken the tread and/or material
 - leave the cover to air dry
2. When removing the cover, avoid dragging the cover into the pool water. If this can not be avoided, hose down the cover again when finally off the pool. Again allow the cover to air dry.
3. Fold the cover neatly and tight while attempting to reduce the number of spring assemblies being folded into the cover. For the springs that cannot be avoided within the cover, make sure they are hanging flat and completely within the plastic sleeve.
4. Roll the cover tightly again, attempting to keep as many spring assemblies outside the cover as possible.
5. Place the cover in the supplied storage bag. If using another item to hold the cover, such as a large plastic bag or container, make sure it is porous to allow any water within the cover to drain.
6. Once in the storage bag, place the cover in an inside area such as a pool shed, basement, garage, etc. Do not leave it outside.

B) FOR THE BRASS PLUGS

In order to prevent dust, dirt, etc. from getting between the screw threads which could cause the screw to lock within the plug.

1. While the cover is installed (during the winter months) debris will build up around the spring and plug area. Once the cover is removed, the area must be cleaned by either sweeping or a shop vac.
2. The screw should be removed from the plug insert. Both should be cleaned by washing under pressure with a garden hose.
3. A lubricant should be lightly applied to the screw portion of the assembly, and then screwed back into the plug.
4. The screw should be level or slightly lower than the top of the plug. Do not force the screw to its tightest position.
5. During the time when the pool is open, sweep the plug area on a periodic basis.

Note: When the pool cover is installed, periodically test the tension on the straps. Adjust if necessary.



HINSPERGERS POLY INDUSTRIES LTD.

645 Needham Lane, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5A 1T9
430 West Oak Orchard Street, Medina, N.Y. USA 14103

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