



# Sabine

POOLS SPAS FURNITURE

[www.sabinepools.com](http://www.sabinepools.com)

## INGROUND POOL OWNER'S MANUAL

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## MY SWIMMING POOL

Pool Type:  Gunitite  Vinyl

Pool Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Pool Gallons: \_\_\_\_\_

Liner Style: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaster Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Filter Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Sand lbs.: \_\_\_\_\_

Pump Model/HP: \_\_\_\_\_

Automatic Cleaner: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_

Automatic Chlorinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Heater Mfg/Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3-Step Chemical Program

#### BioGuard – Chlorine Pool

Sanitizer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs per wk

Shock: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs per wk

Algicide: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ oz per wk

#### BioGuard – Salt Pool

Sanitizer (Salt): \_\_\_\_\_ lbs per wk

Shock: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs per wk

Algicide: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ oz per wk

#### BioGuard – Mineral Springs

\_\_\_\_\_ bags Beginnings at start up

\_\_\_\_\_ bags Renewal weekly

\_\_\_\_\_ MS Stain & Scale



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## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on the purchase of your new swimming pool, and thank you for choosing Sabine Pools.

We would like to welcome you to the family of Sabine pool owners. Your pool will offer many years of family enjoyment and relaxation. Your family and swimming pool deserve only the best, and that is why we offer only the highest quality pool products and the best trained staff of pool professionals in the area. The following is a sample of the services we offer:

- \* Weekly Pool Maintenance
- \* Vacation Pool Service
- \* Professional Service Technicians  
Full-Time, Year-Round with full  
fleet of fully-stocked  
Service/Repair Vehicles
- \* Free In-Store Computerized Pool  
Water Analysis
- \* Certified BioGuard Pool Chemistry  
Experts
- \* Convenient online shopping at  
SabinePools.com
- \* Service Routes / Repairs are  
available in Lake Charles and  
Lafayette Areas Only

**Sabine Pools, Spas & Furniture**

The Best in  
Backyard Living!  
since 1975

## II. WATER TESTING

Every pool has certain chemical characteristics which must be regularly measured. The most important are pH, Total Alkalinity (TA), and the level of active sanitizer. By testing these factors at regular intervals, you'll be able to understand how swimmer load, weather, and product application affect the water. Test your pool's water approximately twice per week. Plan to bring a sample (1 pint) of pool water to the Sabine Pools location nearest you once a month for a free comprehensive computerized water analysis.

The test kit that comes with your pool tests for chlorine, pH, and TA. These are simple tests that take very little time to complete. Follow these steps for simple and accurate readings:

- Step 1:** Remove test strip from bottle. Do not touch the colored pads.
- Step 2:** Dip the strip into the pool water. Blot the strip on its side on a clean paper towel.
- Step 3:** Compare the test strip with the colors on the back of the bottle.
- Step 4:** If adjustment is necessary, bring a water sample to the Sabine location nearest you.

Ideal test readings

pH = 7.4 - 7.6    Chlorine = 1.0 - 3.0 ppm

Total Alkalinity = 125 - 150

Note: Test strips should be stored out of sunlight and replaced every 6 months.



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### III. WATER CHEMISTRY

Water chemistry can be the most intimidating thing about pool ownership. With this in mind, Sabine Pools promotes an easy, effective 3-Step Program. By spending just a few minutes each week on this maintenance program, your pool water will stay sparkling clean and free from algae growth. Always be sure to read and follow label directions and hazard warnings.

Ask our BioGuard water specialist at your local Sabine Pools to personalize your weekly pool care regimen at the beginning of this manual. Keeping your water clear and blue is much easier (and less expensive) than trying to correct problems due to neglect.

Bring us a water sample at least each month during swim season and once during the off-season. We provide free computerized water analysis, so fill your water sample bottle (or a clean jar or Ziploc bag). Your local water specialist is your best resource for clear, sparkling blue pool water – and for enjoying your pool!



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## IV. MINERAL SPRINGS

The MINERAL SPRINGS SYSTEM uses technology to produce a chlorinating sanitizer — without adding chlorine. Sometimes referred to as a “salt water system” or “salt chlorinator”, MINERAL SPRINGS actually uses minerals present in the water after applying Beginnings and converts them to a sanitizer.

MINERAL SPRINGS is easily installed on a new pool or retrofitted onto an existing Inground or Above Ground pool.

THREE BASIC PARTS OF THE MINERAL SPRINGS are:

- The MINERAL SPRINGS UNIT, easy-to-operate electrolysis unit consisting of a cell, a controller, and a flow switch.
- BEGINNINGS, a proprietary blend of minerals that are added to pool water at start-up.
- RENEWAL, a mineral replenishment added weekly keeps water looking and feeling great.

Benefits of MINERAL SPRINGS include:

- Simple: once a week application
- No handling and storing of chlorine
- No eye or skin irritations
- Perfect for people who are busy or travel
- Soft, gentle, sparkling blue water

Your Sabine Pools’ BioGuard Water Care Specialist will give you all the information you need to get the most from your Mineral Springs system and to get the perfect, sparkling, clear blue water you want.

**NOTE:** The cell in the Mineral Springs unit only works when the pool pump is on. If using a timer, make sure pump runs appropriate amount of time.

**IMPORTANT:** Regular salt or salt pellets will damage the unit.

My MINERAL SPRINGS:

\_\_\_\_\_ bags Beginnings @ Startup

\_\_\_\_\_ bags Renewal weekly

## V. FILTER OPERATION

### A. PENTAIR SAND FILTER SYSTEM

The purpose of the sand filter is to collect dirt and debris from the pool water. Dirt is collected in the filter as the water flows through the control valve (Multiport valve) at the top of the filter and directed downward onto the surface of the filter sand bed. Dirt and debris are collected in the sand and clean water is returned to the swimming pool. As more dirt/debris collects in the filter, the pressure in the filter rises and the water-flow back to the pool slows down. A pressure gauge is located on the side of the Multiport valve. **Your filter should be backwashed once a week or more often if you notice a 10 psi increase on your gauge before the normally scheduled backwash is due.** Backwashing is a simple task that allows the sand filter to clean itself of the collected dirt and debris.

#### **HOW TO BACKWASH THE FILTER:**

(See precautions on p. 10, Sec. VII)

**Step 1:** Turn pump “Off”.

**Step 2:** Set Multiport valve to the “Backwash” position; rotate the valve handle in a clockwise motion always.

**Step 3:** Turn pump “On”.

**Step 4:** Allow the “Backwash” cycle to operate for 2-3 minutes or until the backwash water is clean.

**Step 5:** Turn pump “Off”.

**Step 6:** Set Multiport valve to the “Rinse” position; rotate the valve handle in a clockwise motion always.

**Step 7:** Turn pump “On”

**Step 8:** Allow the “Rinse” cycle to operate for 30 seconds.

**Step 9:** Turn pump “Off”.

**Note:** Pump must be off before moving the multiport valve settings. Turning the settings with pump running will damage the multiport valve.

**Step 10:** Set Multiport valve to the “Filter” position; rotate the valve handle in a clockwise motion always.

**Step 11:** Turn pump “On”.

**Step 12:** Open the manual air bleeder on the Multiport valve, close the air bleeder once water emerges from the air bleeder.

***YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY  
BACKWASHED YOUR FILTER***

## SAND FILTER MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

1) The sand in your filter is designed specifically to be used for pool filtration and this sand should be replaced every 3 years. Sabine Pools can perform this service for you. Call your local Sabine Pools for scheduling and quotes.

2) ROUTINE FILTER CLEANING: Your filter's sand should be chemically cleaned using Bioguard "Strip-Kwik" or "Kleen-It" twice per season. This will ensure efficient filter operation and decrease overall chemical maintenance due to increased filtering capacity.

### **B. PENTAIR CARTRIDGE FILTER SYSTEM**

Warning: This filter operates under high pressure. If air enters the system and becomes pressurized, it can cause the lid to separate from the tank bottom which can result in severe injury, death or property damage. To avoid this hazard, refer to your filter Installation and User Guide/Safety Instructions.

#### **General Information**

1. The maximum working pressure is 50 p.s.i. Never exceed this amount.
2. The pressure gauge is the primary performance indicator.
3. Clean your filter when pressure reads between 8-10 p.s.i. higher than the original starting pressure.

#### **Filter Cleaning**

Refer to your Cartridge Filter Installation and User Guide, pages 2-7, for detailed instructions to safely and properly clean the cartridge filter.

**OR**

Contact us for a professional service call.

## **VI. POOL PUMP & MOTOR**

(See precautions on p. 10, Sec. VII)

### **ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- \* 220 volt, 20 amp, GFCI protected dedicated circuit. Run electrical wiring to the equipment site.
- \* Do Not use extension cords. Use of extension cords will void the electric motor warranty.

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## OPERATION

- \* Never operate without pump pot (basket area) being full of water.
- \* Pool water level should be 2/3 up the skimmer face plate.

**Step 1:** Fill pump pot with water.

**Step 2:** Sand Filter System Only - Check filter multiport valve for proper port selection. (See precautions on p.10, Sec VII)

A) Initial start-up - Use "Backwash" port selection.

B) Normal start-up - Use "Filter" port selection.

**Step 3:** Open valve in front of pump pot to allow free flow of water from pool to pump.

**Step 4:** Make sure water level in pool cover up 2/3 up the skimmer face plate opening in the pool.

**Step 5:** Use "On"/"Off" switch on timer to activate the pump. Allow pump time to prime itself.

**Step 6:** For normal start-up, the pump is primed when a steady stream of water is coming out of the "Return Jet" or Aqua Genie Return in the pool. Note: Multiport valve is on the "Filter" position.

## WARRANTY

- \* 1 year replacement warranty on parts.
- \* After an on-site repair: Labor is warrantied for 1 year; parts are warrantied only during warranty period.
- \* After an in-store repair: Bench labor is warrantied for 1 year; parts are warrantied only during warranty period.
- \* Pump basket is not covered under 1 year replacement warranty.
- \* Electric motor damage caused by improper electrical wiring is not covered under warranty.
- \* Electric motor damage caused by leaks is not covered under warranty. All leaks should be fixed immediately before damage to the electric motor occurs.

## HELPFUL HINTS

### **Running the pump**

Keep pump lid O-Ring lubricated at all times. Pool pump should run a minimum of 8 - 12 daylight hours per day during the summer swim season. The longer the pump runs, the clearer and cleaner the pool will stay.

**Note:** Electric pool pump timers are available at all Sabine locations. The pool pump timer will automatically schedule your pump run times.

## **Basket Cleaning**

**Step 1:** Turn pump “Off”.

**Step 2:** Open pump lid, remove pump basket, empty debris, and rinse out any small debris stuck in the weave of basket. Keep pump lid O-ring lubricated.

**Step 3:** Replace pump basket and lid. **IMPORTANT:** Baskets with “cutouts” or “slots” must be in the proper position to allow free water flow.

**Step 4:** Refill pump pot.

**Step 5:** Reinstall lid; tighten securely.

**Step 6:** Turn pump “On”; allow pump to prime itself. You will know when it is primed when you see a steady stream coming out of the “Return Jet” in the pool.

## **Ventilation**

Keep all air vents on underside of motor free from debris to ensure proper cooling of motor.

**IMPORTANT:** Keep motor area free of ants and grass. Motors are a favorite place for ants to build nests. Ant nests will overheat and damage the pump motor. This type of motor damage is NOT covered under the manufacturer’s warranty.

**Leaks:** All leaks should be fixed immediately; prolonged leaks may cause permanent damage to the electric motor.

## **Winterizing / Freezing Temperatures**

Run the pump continuously during freezing temperatures or drain all water from the pump housing and piping when freezing temperatures are expected.

If draining equipment prior to a freeze:

**Step 1:** Remove both drain plugs from the pump to ensure the pump will drain completely.

**Step 2:** For an outdoor unprotected location, it is best to protect the equipment in a weatherproof enclosure.

**Note:** We recommend covering the equipment with a tarpaulin or plastic sheet to inhibit deterioration from weather. Do not wrap pump motor with plastic because condensation could form inside the motor.

## VII. MULTIPOINT VALVE OPERATION

The Multiport valve on your sand filter directs water flow through the sand filter. The multiport valve should **never** be turned when the pump is running. The multiport valve should **always** be turned in a **clockwise** motion. There are seven positions on the multiport valve, and they are:

1. **FILTER:** This is the normal operating position. As water flows through the sand, dirt and debris are collected and clean water is returned to the pool.
2. **BACKWASH:** Water flows through the sand flushing the collected dirt and debris from the sand and discharging this water out of the waste line.
3. **RINSE:** This position is used briefly after backwashing to clear internal filter of dirty water created during the backwash cycle.
4. **WASTE:** The waste position sends waste directly to the waste line without going through the filter. Note: Pool will lose substantial amounts of water in this position.
5. **CLOSED: NO FLOW - DO NOT USE THIS SETTING WITH PUMP OPERATING.**
6. **RECIRCULATE:** Water flows from pump through multiport valve returning to the pool without going through the filter.
7. **WINTERIZE:** Use only for winterizing pool. This position prevents water from remaining in the pipes and multiport valve to prevent freeze damage.

## VIII. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

### SKIMMER BASKET

The skimmer basket needs to be checked daily and emptied accordingly.

**Step 1:** Remove the skimmer basket and discard any unwanted debris.

**Step 2:** Place skimmer basket back into the skimmer housing. The basket needs to be firmly in place before proceeding.

### PUMP BASKET

The pump basket needs to be cleaned a minimum of once a week. Refer to the Pool Pump & Motor section of this manual for instructions on how to perform this task.

### VACUUMING

Vacuuming is the process of removing dirt and debris from the pool floor. The pool should be vacuumed a minimum of once a week.

**Note:** Automatic vacuuming systems are available at your local Sabine Pools & Spas.

\* Make sure pool water level is 2/3 up skimmer face plate.

**Step 1:** Clean pump and skimmer basket; also Backwash filter if circulation seems to be poor. Put Filter Valve in Filter Position to Vacuum.

**Step 2:** Turn pump off.

**Step 3:** Attach the vacuum head to the telescoping pool pole.

**Step 4:** Attach the vacuum head to the vacuum hose end that swivels.

**Step 5:** Place the vacuum head, vacuum hose, and telescoping pole into the pool. Remove all the air from the vacuum hose before proceeding to the next step.

**Step 6:** Attach the skimmer vacuum disc to the open end of the vacuum hose. Then place the skimmer vacuum disc on top of the skimmer basket located on the side of the pool. If applicable, close of the main drain suction or any other suction ports at this time to achieve stronger vacuum suction.

**Step 7:** The vacuum hose and head should now have a suction going through it. Vacuum the pool floor by slowly pushing the vacuum along the floor, similar to vacuuming carpet. The cleaned areas should be apparent. If suction decreases, recheck the items listed in Step 1.



**Step 8:** After vacuuming the pool, turn the pool pump off and remove the vacuum system and reopen any closed suction ports.

**Step 9:** Clean pump and skimmer baskets. Backwash sand filter to ensure proper operation. Refer to Backwash Instructions, Sec IV, p. 5.

## BRUSHING

Routine brushing ensures that debris and biofilm accumulation in low circulation areas is moved back into the circulation pattern of the pool for removal by the filter system. Weekly brushing of the pool walls and low circulation areas is recommended.

**Note:** New Gunite Pools - Brushing of pool walls and floors should be done daily for the first 10 days to help prevent stains.

### **Brushing the pool**

Attach the pool brush directly to the telescoping pole. Only a vinyl bristle brush should be used. Brush the walls and any low circulation areas with some force in a straight up and down motion.

### **Brushing the water line**

To help prevent scum line formation at the water line of the swimming pool it is recommended that the water line be scrubbed weekly with a vinyl bristle brush or non-abrasive cleaning pad. To assist in the removal of any water line build-ups, add Bioguard Off-The-Wall to your cleaning pad/brush. This chemical cleaner is completely compatible with your existing pool water chemistry.

**Important: NEVER** use any household cleaners when cleaning your pool. This may result in permanent damage to the vinyl liner or tile and serious water chemistry problems.

## SKIMMING

### **Skimming the pool surface**

Attach the leaf skimmer to the telescoping pole and proceed to dip out any large debris in the pool.

### **Skimming the pool floor**

Attach the deep leaf rake to the telescoping pole. Then proceed to scoop any large debris off the bottom of the pool.



## LEAF EATER

This is an optional manual floor cleaner designed for use when large amount of leaves are present on the pool floor. The Leaf Eater is dependent on water pressure from a garden hose, and therefore, does not use the swimming pool's filtration system. This is an excellent cleaner for use during the leaf falling season and will decrease cleaning time significantly.

- Step 1:** Attach the Leaf Eater to the telescoping pole; confirm that the Leaf Eater containment bag is securely fastened to the Leaf Eater body.
- Step 2:** Attach the Leaf Eater to your garden hose.
- Step 3:** Place the Leaf Eater into the pool, then turn the garden hose water on.
- Step 4:** Slowly pass the Leaf Eater along the bottom of the pool to pick up any leaves or debris.
- Step 5:** To remove the Leaf Eater, slowly turn the body of the Leaf Eater onto its side and slowly raise it to the surface of the water. Allow the Leaf Eater to float upside down at the surface of the pool water until the garden hose water faucet is turned off. Then remove the Leaf Eater from the pool and empty the containment bag.

## AUTOMATIC POOL CLEANERS

Automatic pool cleaners drastically reduce the amount of time spent manually cleaning the pool. Most automatic cleaners should be operated several hours per day for optimum results. Automatic cleaners typically have a basket or debris bag that should be cleaned regularly for best results.

The trained professionals at your local Sabine Pools will help you choose the proper automatic cleaner for your swimming pool.

## IX. WINTERIZATION

### CLOSING YOUR SWIMMING POOL

In South Louisiana, we typically have milder winters than most areas. Because of this, we generally get a longer swimming season with warmer water year-round. When the swimming pool water becomes too cold to swim, you can cover your pool for the winter or leave the pool uncovered. Most pool owners who have a lot of trees cover their pools to avoid the leaf problems all winter long. If you do not have a lot of trees, it is very simple to keep your pool open for the winter. Before you cover your pool, consult with the professionals at Sabine Pools to determine if covering the pool is right for you.

#### **TO WINTERIZE:**

**Step 1:** CLEAN THE POOL - Before covering your pool, clean the pool thoroughly by vacuuming all debris, brushing the walls, and removing leaves from the pool. Any debris left in the pool over the winter could result in staining.

**Step 2:** WINTERIZE THE WATER CHEMISTRY - To protect equipment, prevent algae growth, and keep your pool water looking good over the winter, you must properly treat your water before covering your pool. You should bring a water sample into your local Sabine Pools & Spas for testing before adding winter and balancing chemicals. There are different winterizing chemical kits available for each size pool that are specifically designed to last over the winter. You will need to run your pump for several hours after adding the winter chemicals in order to circulate them properly.

**Note:** Due to Louisiana's mild winters, we recommend that you have your pool water tested every month throughout the winter.

**Step 3:** POOL COVERS - If you are covering your pool, there are several types of pool covers available. The most popular are solid pool covers which keep rain water and sunlight out of the pool. There are several different grades of these covers, so make sure you compare quality and not just price. Solid pool covers are the style designed to be used with a winterizing chemical kit described above.

## **X. WARRANTY - OVERVIEW**

See manufacturers' warranties for conditions & limitations.

### PUMP & MOTOR- Pentair Whisperflo Pump (1 year for self-installed)

- \* 3 year replacement warranty on parts with new construction.
- \* Labor is warranted for 1 year; parts are warranted only during warranty period. Owner is responsible for applicable TRIP charge and any non-warranty supplies required to complete work order.
- \* Pump basket is not covered under 3 year replacement warranty.
- \* Electric motor damage caused by improper electrical wiring is not covered under the terms of the limited warranty (See "Pool Pump & Motor" for electrical requirements).

### FILTER SYSTEM

#### A. SAND FILTER - Pentair Sand System

- \* 1 year replacement warranty on filter Multiport Valve
- \* 1 year replacement warranty on all internal filter tank parts
- \* 1 year replacement warranty on fiberglass filter tank
- \* Labor is warranted for a period of 1 year only. Owner is responsible for applicable TRIP charge and any non-warranty supplies to complete work order.

#### B. CARTRIDGE SYSTEM – Pentair Cartridge System

- \* 1 year replacement warranty on filter system.
- \* Filter parts carry a manufacturer's warranty against workmanship and defects only. Warranty determination is done by the manufacturer only.

### CHLORINATORS

- \* 1 year parts

### INTELLICHLOR SALT CHLORINE GENERATOR

- \* 1 year parts and labor

### PARAMOUNT IN-FLOOR CLEANING SYSTEM

- \* Lifetime on pop ups
- \* Module – 3 year original, 1 year replacements
- \* Parts only warranty

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### MASTERTEMP HEATER

- \* 2 year warranty on cabinet, combustion chamber, burners/burner manifold, inlet/outlet header and the return header. Warranty does not cover rusting or corrosion that does not affect heater's operation.
- \* 2 year warranty on flow control valve all controls, heat exchanger, pilot generator and pilot assembly.
- \* Warranty does not apply to any units or parts which have been subject to accident, negligence, alteration, abuse, misapplication, or misuse.
- \* Labor 1 year

### DIVING BOARD, SLIDES, HANDRAILS, & LADDERS

S.R. Smith

- \* 3 year warranty on defects in material and workmanship.
- \* Warranty does not apply to damages due to accident, negligence, abuse, misapplication, or misuse.
- \* No labor warranty

### AUTOMATIC CLEANERS - Warranty varies by brand & model

- \* Parts only - no labor. In-store labor: No charge through warranty period.

### POOL LIGHTS

- \* 1 year warranty (light bulb not included)

### **VINYL POOLS**

#### VINYL POOL STRUCTURE WALLS

- \* Lifetime Warranty - Parts Only
- \* 1 year workmanship labor warranty
- \* Warranty does not apply should the pool be drained and or be left idle, nor if pool structure is damaged by earthquake, war, earth fill movement or disasters, such as explosions, wrecking, etc.; nor if there is a transfer of owners or movement of pool as a result of external water caused by others.

#### VINYL POOL LINER STANDARD

- \* 10 year pro-rated warranty against seam failure only.
- \* Liner seam failure warranty is a manufacturer's part replacement warranty only, and does not include reinstallation labor, chemicals, loss of water, etc.
- \* Liner seam failure warranty determination is done by the manufacturer only.

### Non-Warrantied Pool Liner Items Include:

- \* Liner punctures/holes, other than seam failure.
- \* Liner bead coming out of liner track.
- \* Wrinkles in liner
- \* Liner pattern discoloration of any type.

## **GUNITE POOLS**

### STRUCTURE

- \* Lifetime Limited Warranty
- \* Warranty includes non-transferrable coverage of gunite shell leaks resulting from structural cracks
- \* Warranty does not apply should the pool be drained and/or be left idle, nor if pool structure is damaged by earthquake, war, earth fill movement or disasters, such as explosions, wrecking, etc.; nor if there is a transfer of owners or movement of pool as a result of external water caused by others.

### INTERIOR PLASTER SURFACE

- \* 1 year warranty against defects in material or workmanship.
- \* Warranty does not apply to damages due to acts of God, accident, negligence, alteration, abuse, misapplication, or misuse.

**NOTE:** Maintaining proper water chemistry is the main factor in your interior plaster surface's life. Staining is caused by organic and non-organic substances adhering to the plaster surface and is not covered under warranty. Staining can be prevented by proper water chemistry and preventive maintenance.

### PLUMBING

- \* 1 Year Warranty

### CONCRETE DECKS

- \* 1 year warranty against defects in material or workmanship. Cracking, flaking, fading, settling and or movement of concrete are considered normal and are excluded from warranty.



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