

*For Inground Liners*

PLEASE READ THIS BOOKLET **NOW**

It contains important information on:

- POOL SAFETY
- LINER INSTALLATION
- LINER CARE AND MAINTENANCE
- LINER WARRANTY

Dear Pool Owner:

Congratulations on your new GARRETT liner! You and your family can look forward to many, many years of enjoyment from your pool.

However, we want them to be SAFE years. All swimming pools should be used with caution. Misuse or improper activity in and around a swimming pool can result in serious permanent injury or death. You, and your family, and your guests, must be advised on some important precautionary steps that must be taken. This booklet, and the enclosed Association of Pool & Spa Professionals publication, "The Sensible Way to Enjoy Your Inground Swimming Pool", will explain them. Be sure to read, understand, and follow them.

Included in this package is a weather resistant Pool Safety Sign. It is our specific instruction and intent that this sign be conspicuously and permanently posted in the pool area. In this way, we feel confident that each and every person who uses the pool has been given the opportunity to review this information before using the pool.

You will also find in this owner's information package a quantity of warning labels to be affixed to the pool, liner care and maintenance suggestions, and warranty information. Please complete and return the warranty registration card, and store all pool information in a safe place for future reference.

Remember - only you can keep your pool safe. Understand, communicate, and enforce the safety rules. Best wishes for years of safe swimming, relaxation, and enjoyment.



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# POOL SAFETY

## INFORMATION YOU MUST KNOW:

1. Any diving, either head-first or otherwise, can be **Dangerous** and may result in permanent paralysis or death. If a diver's head hits the bottom or sides, crippling injury to the neck or spinal cord can result.
2. Diving from either the shallow end wall or the sides of the pools is especially **Dangerous**, even when employing a "shallow" or "racing" dive.
3. It is your responsibility to:
  - a) Warn users of the hazards of Diving and the Pool.
  - b) Enforce all safety rules.
  - c) Properly maintain the pool and its safety equipment and warnings, and correct any dangerous conditions.

## ACTION YOU MUST TAKE:

1. Affix the "Danger - No Diving" labels to your pool as shown on page 4. These labels are intended to clearly indicate to all pool users those areas where diving is unsafe. Failure to apply these labels could result in the permanent paralysis or death of a pool user.
2. Post the enclosed Pool Safety Sign. Select the location where it will be most visible to all pool users before they use the pool. Make sure it is not obscured by shrubbery, by the opening of a gate or door, or by anything else.
3. Read the enclosed Association of Pool & Spa Professionals (APSP) publication "The Sensible Way to Enjoy Your Inground Swimming Pool".
4. Refer to the card accompanying this booklet to determine what APSP type pool you have:
  - a) If your pool is classified as NON-DIVING (Type 0 or Non-Conforming), it is not considered safe by current APSP Standards to use ANY diving equipment on it. If your pool is now equipped with any diving equipment, you must IMMEDIATELY remove it. Never permit diving in the pool.
  - b) If your pool is classified as DIVING (Type I, II, III, IV, or V ), you must:
    - i) Check that the tip of the board overhangs the pool wall the proper distance to provide water deep enough for safe diving in accordance with standards and diving equipment manufactures specifications. Your pool professional can provide you with this information.
    - ii) Check that your diving equipment is not of a higher Type than the Type of your pool (i.e., you can not use Type III diving equipment on a Type II pool).
5. Acquaint ALL pool users - and especially first time visitors - with the bottom contours, slopes, depth, length, width, and possible hazards BEFORE they enter the pool.
6. If your pool is equipped with a slide, the slide must be installed in accordance with the slide manufacturer's specifications.

7. Establish and enforce common sense rules for pool safety, such as:
  - a) **Never** swim alone and **never** allow unsupervised swimming.
  - b) Even if your pool is classified as “Diving”, **never, never** permit anyone to run and dive or make long, deep, or fancy dives, as body velocity could carry them too far or too deep, resulting in permanent paralysis or death.
  - c) **No** horseplay or rough-housing.
  - d) **Never** swim when using alcohol or drugs - it is no safer than drinking and driving.
  - e) **Never** use the pool without safe lighting in the pool and deck area.
  - f) Have a high fence with a self-locking gate.
  - g) Have recommended safety equipment at pool site.
  - h) Sanitize, clean, and maintain your pool regularly to ensure clear water.
  - i) If your children do not know how to swim, enroll them in a “Learn to Swim” program.
  - j) Be sure visitors to your pool know how to swim, or are adequately supervised.
8. Per sections 15.2 of the standard, most pools require a rope and float assembly across the pool. When a vinyl liner is replaced, the rope anchor devices and the rope and float assembly must be reinstalled.
9. This is an important safety document. Keep it in a safe place. Be sure to pass it on to any new owner.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

1. In the absence of information to the contrary, we assume that yours is a residential inground pool. If it is not - that is, if it is for a hotel, motel, apartment complex, campground, condominium, swim club, etc., or if it is an aboveground pool - please contact us at once. This is necessary because the Standards for non-residential pools are quite different from residential Standards, and aboveground Standards are different from inground Standards.
2. If you feel that the APSP Type shown on the card accompanying this booklet is not the correct one for your pool, please contact us at once. We want to be sure you have the right safety information.
3. If you have any safety-related questions or problems that your installer cannot adequately address, please contact us.

**IMPORTANT**

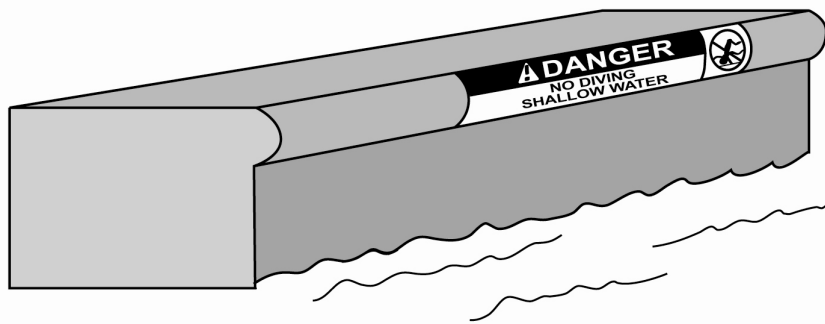
IF THE APPROPRIATE SAFETY INFORMATION, SIGN, OR LABELS ARE NOT INCLUDED WITH THE LINER, OR BECOME DEFACED OR LOST, ADDITIONAL COPIES CAN BE OBTAINED AT NO CHARGE BY WRITING TO US, BY CALLING US AT (800) 222-3650, OR BY SENDING US AN E-MAIL AT [INFO@GARRETTLINERS.COM](mailto:INFO@GARRETTLINERS.COM).

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF “DANGER - NO DIVING” LABELS

Before anyone is allowed to use your pool, affix the enclosed “Danger - No Diving” labels to your pool. They should be placed where they are most visible to users of your pool.

If your pool has smooth metal or plastic coping of sufficient size, the front edge of the coping is the best location. If the coping is not smooth, is not big enough, or is of some other material, the liner, between the waterline and the coping, is an alternative location.

It is important that the surface you select is clean, smooth, and dry before applying the labels. Remove the backing, then starting at the top of the label, align the top edge horizontally. Carefully smooth the label from the top down very lightly to remove air and wrinkles. When in place, press firmly.

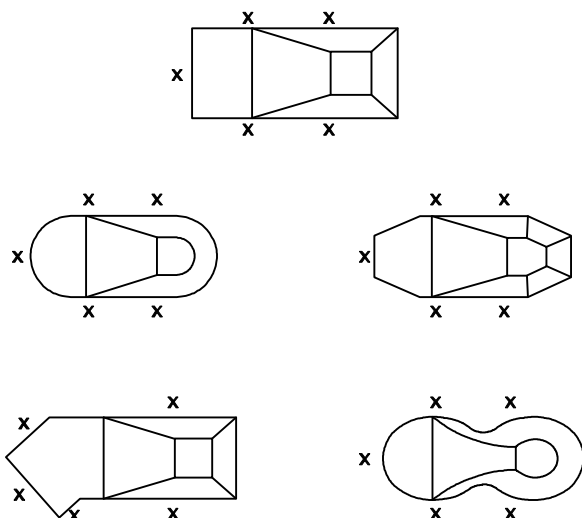


Labels should be placed as shown below, depending upon the shape of your pool. If a section of coping or liner must be removed to accommodate a stair, skimmer, swim-out, or accessory at a location where a label would be placed, locate the label in the most visible location as close as possible to the intended position.

Be sure that these labels are not tampered with, defaced, or removed. If they become defaced or lost, additional copies can be obtained at no charge by writing or calling us.

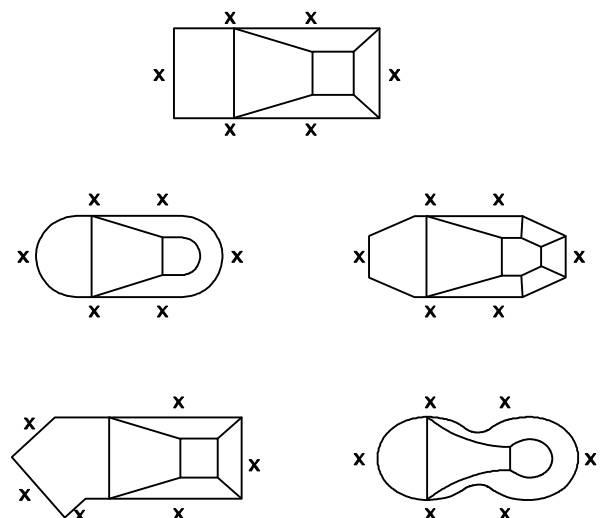
### DIVING POOLS

(APSP TYPES II, III, IV, V)



### NON-DIVING POOLS

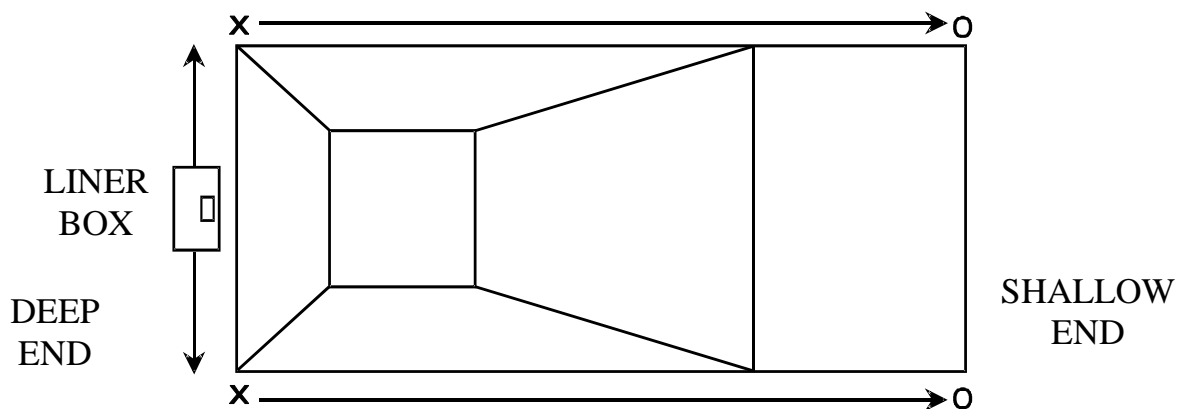
(APSP TYPE 0 OR NON-CONFORMING)



# INSTALLATION TIPS

## IMPORTANT:

1. Do not drag liner on the ground or abrade in any manner.
2. Be sure that pool bottom and walls are smooth and free of any stones, debris, or other sharp objects.
3. To aid in the installation, there are several markings on the earth-side of the liner wall:
  - a) On rectangular liners, the approximate top corners of the liner are marked. On oval liners, these stickers are placed on the sidewall at the approximate ends of both straight sides. On free-form liners, the stickers are placed on the sidewall at the approximate ends of the shallow end break line.
  - a) On all liners, except flat bottoms, stickers indicating deep and shallow ends of the liner are found near the centers of the deep and shallow end.



## POSITIONING LINER FOR INSTALLATION:

1. Position the liner box per drawing above. Note the instructions on the sticker affixed to the liner carton.
2. Remove liner from carton and place on coping, deck, or other smooth surface, making certain that the liner is still in the same relative position as it was in the box.
3. In the factory, the liner was accordion folded from the deep end and rolled from both ends toward the center.
4. Unroll the liner from the center toward the deep end corners marked with an **X** on the drawing.
5. Locate corner marks and make sure "Shallow End" sticker is visible.
6. Grasp the top corners and unfold the liner, moving from point **X** to point **O** on each long side of the pool. Be careful not to snag the liner. Be sure someone is holding deep end wall to prevent it from falling into the pool.
7. Before the liner is snapped into position, stretch the beading from the center of the pool walls toward the corners. This will relax the bead allowing for subtle adjustments and a proper fit in the corners.
8. Snap the bead into the receiver around the entire pool perimeter, making adjustments where necessary to ensure that the liner is properly positioned.
9. At this point, we recommend that you set the shallow end, securing the liner in place with water tubes or buckets of water. This step will reduce the amount of material that is pulled toward the deep end during the final steps of installation and filling.

10. Position and start vacuums to pull the liner into place. Make sure that the liner fits correctly at this point. Changes are easy to make now but next to impossible once filling begins. If you are comfortable with the fit, start filling.
11. Do not cut in any fittings or steps until the water covers the vertical pool walls for at least six to eight inches. Attempting to do this prematurely could cause the liner to tear at the fittings as the pool fills.

**IF YOU THINK THE LINER IS NOT FITTING PROPERLY:**

1. **DO NOT** cut in any fittings, steps, main drains, etc.
2. Re-check all dimensions to make sure they are what were ordered.
3. If you have fullness across the shallow end, check to see that the shallow and deep ends of the liner were not reversed at some point.
4. If the heat of the sun has stretched the liner too much, this can be corrected by gently wetting the liner down with a fine spray of cold water from a garden hose or waiting for a cooler time of day.

# LINER CARE AND MAINTENANCE TIPS

To ensure that you get the maximum enjoyment from your liner, we would like to share with you some tips on the care and maintenance of your pool that we have gathered in our 40 plus years in this business. We feel confident that if these tips are followed, you will save yourself a great deal of money both by maximizing the life of your liner and by reducing your expenses for pool chemicals.

1. Maintain good water balance. When your water is properly balanced, and a sanitizing agent such as chlorine is added to control bacteria and other contaminants, the result is ideal swimming pool water. Your local pool professional, working from his own considerable knowledge of pool chemistry and backed by the instructions of the various chemical manufacturers, is a valuable resource in attaining this goal. Water balance is a very complex subject. Total alkalinity and calcium hardness, for instance, will vary from area to area depending on the local water supply. Therefore, you should check with your local pool professional to see what value is best for your area. Around the country we have found the following water balance data to work well:

| Parameter        | Recommended Range | Test Frequency |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| pH               | 7.2 to 7.6        | Daily          |
| Total Alkalinity | 80 to 120 ppm     | Weekly         |
| Calcium Hardness | 150 to 250 ppm    | Monthly        |
| Free Chlorine    | 1.0 to 1.5 ppm    | Daily          |

ppm = parts per million

2. The most important factor in the control of water chemistry is pH. The pH is the measure of the acidity and alkalinity of the water, with 7.0 being neutral. Never allow the pH to fall below 7.0 into the acid range. Below 7.0 complex interactions occur which are very harmful to the liner. In this range, the liner actually “grows” and develops unsightly wrinkles that cannot be removed, and the liner ages prematurely.
3. Chlorine abuse is a major cause of liner degradation. A high concentration of chlorine will attack the liner, bleach it, cause it to “alligator”, and make the vinyl deteriorate rapidly. Therefore, you must never allow chlorine to come into contact with the liner before it has been fully dissolved and thoroughly dispersed in the water.
  - a) If you use granular chlorine, dissolve it in a bucket of water, pour the liquid around the pool perimeter, and thoroughly agitate the water to ensure that the chlorine is thoroughly dispersed. Never just throw the granules into the pool, as they can collect on the bottom and attack the vinyl.

- b) If you use tableted chlorine, you should either dissolve it in a bucket of water as for granular, or add it to a properly functioning feeder. Never add them directly to the pool, because they will certainly attack the vinyl. If you use calcium hypochlorite tablets, you should not add them to the skimmer, as the chlorine can migrate back into the pool when the filter is turned off and attack the liner wall in the area of the skimmer.
- c) If you use liquid chlorine, pour it around the pool perimeter and agitate the water to thoroughly disperse it.

To make sure the chlorine is thoroughly dispersed, it is a good idea in all cases to have the circulating pump running for a minimum of four hours after addition of chemicals.

- 4. In adding chemicals to your pool water, remember that “more” is not “better”. Too much may actually be very harmful to your liner, and is certainly a waste of money.
- 5. For the sake of safety, never mix chemicals together. Add them one at a time. And always add chemicals to water - never the other way around.
- 6. Never drain the pool to where you would have less than about one foot of water in the shallow end. If the water pressure is removed from the liner, even for a short time, the liner may shrink. In addition to being unsightly, this can cause the liner to tear in the corners or around fittings or steps.
- 7. Most liners will eventually get a “bathtub ring” at the waterline from the accumulation of body oils, suntan lotions, etc. These can usually be removed by specially formulated cleaners that your pool dealer has available. But be sure that they are the kind meant for vinyl liners. Avoid the use of abrasive cleaning agents like steel wool, sharp bristled brushes, scouring pads, etc., as these can damage your liner. Never use gasoline, kerosene, or other petroleum based products, as these can cause your liner to deteriorate rapidly.
- 8. Keep your filtration system in good working order so it can remove impurities and help in the dispersal of pool chemicals.
- 9. If you should ever develop a leak in your liner, special patching glues are available from your pool dealer that allow you to repair the liner underwater, without having to drain the water.

## **WATER TESTING TIPS**

- 1. Water samples should always be taken at least one foot below the water line and away from return outlets to ensure that the samples are representative of the main water body.
- 2. Before checking these samples, make sure that all the analytical testing equipment is clean and functional and that chemical testing reagents are fresh. Results obtained from defective equipment and reagents can themselves be defective, leading to the addition of wrong chemical dosages and inadvertent damage to the liner.