



MY POOL HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY PAINTED. WHAT TYPE OF POOL PAINT CAN I APPLY NOW?

This is an extremely important question to ask before you proceed further in your decision making process regarding the re-painting of your swimming pool. While there are many other questions that must be answered, coating compatibility dictates what products can or can't be applied. The product selected will directly affect many of those subsequent questions. When you apply paint in an immersion service scenario, such as a swimming pool, compatibility issues can contribute to both blistering and delamination problems.

POOL PAINT COMPATIBILITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Water Borne Acrylic (WR-10XX Series) can be applied over any existing pool paint
- Chlorinated Rubber (CR-26XX Series) can only be used over another chlorinated rubber, and may not be available in many areas due to ever changing solvent related environmental restrictions
- Synthetic Rubber Based (RP-27XX Series) can be used over chlorinated and synthetic rubber pool paints
- Epoxy (IG-40XX Series) can only be used over another solvent based epoxy

HOW CAN I DETERMINE WHAT TYPE OF PAINT IS ON MY POOL?

The type of existing paint can be determined by wiping the surface with various solvents. The solvents will start to dissolve the paint film causing it to soften and become sticky. The solvent that actually affects the paint film determines what type of paint is present. To perform the tests first clean the immediate surface area(s) to be sure that there are no contaminants or chalk present. Rinse the area with clean water and allow it to thoroughly dry. Next, saturate a clean cotton ball with the solvent #1, and then gently wipe it back and forth in a linear pattern approximately 6 inches in length. The paint should start to lose gloss and then become soft/sticky after 4 or 5 passes. If not, use solvent #2 and another cotton ball to apply that solvent in an adjacent area. If there is no reaction use solvent #3 in yet another area. Tests should be conducted in at least 3 to 4 areas within the pool. It is extremely important that you wear rubber gloves in order to protect your skin from the solvents. Indicator solvents are as follows:

Solvent #1) Denatured Alcohol - softens waterborne acrylic pool paint

Solvent #2) Xylene - softens both chlorinated rubber and synthetic rubber based pool paints

Solvent #3) MEK - softens solvent based epoxy pool paint

Note: The 3 solvents are typically available at your local paint store