What is Scale?
Maybe you have seen it, those unsightly white mineral deposits that appear at the waterline in your pool or spa. That is scale. Calcium carbonate scale is one of the most common types of deposits that occur in your pool. There are other types, but they are less common. Scale not only ruins your pool’s aesthetics, but also has a rough surface that can scrape or snag your skin and swimsuits. The same scale that you see at the waterline can also build up hard deposits in your pool’s plumbing, filtration system, heater and other pool equipment, causing damage over time. Left untreated scale can become nearly impossible to remove.

How did I get it?
Scale is caused by calcium in the water. In the pool industry we measure it as Calcium Hardness. Calcium is a natural mineral that is present in most water sources. You don’t see calcium because it is dissolved into a solution of water. However, calcium is less soluble in warm water temperatures, so the warmer the water gets, the higher the chance that calcium will begin to appear as it separates from the water, if the water is out of balance. Scale deposits on the tile at the waterline are a by-product of water evaporation. If your pool’s circulation pump is turned off during the day in the middle of swim season, water that is sitting in the plumbing and equipment heats up and can cause scale to form there as well.

Keeping pool water balanced is the best way to prevent scale. If your Calcium Hardness level is beyond the ideal range, you increase the possibility of scale build-up. Removing existing scale and using a preventive product is the best way to keep it at bay. Water testing is the only way to find out how much Calcium Hardness is in your water. The minimum recommended Calcium Hardness is 150 ppm; the maximum is 800-1000 ppm. The ideal range for your pool water is between 200-400 ppm.

Rewards Members
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Limit 1 reward per member.
Once you have scale at the waterline or other areas of your pool, there are three methods for removing it.

1. **Manual Method**
   - Use a pumice stone to scrape the calcium deposits off. This is labor intensive, messy and time consuming.
   - Once removed, keep scale from forming by using Leslie's Stain & Scale Prevent per the label directions.

2. **Manual Method**
   - Lower the water level and use Leslie's Rapid Scale Remover or Descale It products to loosen scale.
   - Follow with scrubbing. This is less time consuming but still laborious.
   - Once removed, keep scale from forming by using Leslie's Stain & Scale Prevent per the label directions.

3. **Hassle-Free Method**
   - Raise water level 1" to 2" so waterline scale is submerged.
   - Adjust water chemistry as directed and add Leslie's Stain & Scale Remove per the label directions.
   - Once removed, keep scale from forming by using Leslie's Stain & Scale Prevent per the label directions.

If your pool has an infinity or negative edge, the water cannot be raised to the required level for the Hassle-Free Method.

### Removing Scale

These steps are intended to guide you through the process of removing scale using Leslie's Stain & Scale Remove. Always read and follow product label directions and precautionary statements. Determine how much product is necessary using the chart on the label, which is based on the volume of your pool, the season and condition of the scale. Pool water should be flowing over calcified deposits in order for Leslie's Stain & Scale Remove to be effective. Manually scrubbing scale will speed up the process.

1. Raise the pool water level 1" to 2" above the waterline to ensure product is in constant contact with scale.
2. Adjust Chlorine level to 1-3 ppm and pH between 7.2-7.8.
3. Using the dosage chart, add Leslie's Stain & Scale Remove directly to the water, do not mix chemicals.
4. Maintain higher water level for up to 4 weeks or until scale is removed.
5. Run pump continuously for 24 hours and then resume normal operation. Maintain the chlorine level between 1-3 ppm and pH between 7.2-7.8.
6. The process to remove the calcium scale from your tile may take up to 4 weeks, longer for other types of scale.

### Note: For Salt Pools

Turn the generator off for 2 weeks prior to treating with Leslie's Stain & Scale Remove and use an alternate chlorine source such as liquid chlorine, calcium hypochlorite, or tablets during the removal process.

### Preventing Scale

The key to keeping scale from forming in your pool is by maintaining proper water balance, performing regular pool maintenance, which includes brushing pool walls at the waterline and using a preventive product. Leslie's Stain & Scale Prevent protects against calcium carbonate scale build up.