



Litehouse
This is the life.

Black algae is a very dark green, almost grayish growth that can appear on the sides and bottom of pools. It sometimes looks like sand that is unable to be vacuumed off the bottom. There is no proven cure for it. In most cases the algae disappears in the colder weather and shows back up after consecutive days of high temperatures.

The most common mistake when dealing with the algae is when people mistake algae for metallic deposits. Before beginning any treatment, you must first determine that you are dealing with a living organism. The best method to test this is to try to scrape the stuff into a container and add a small amount of chlorinated shock to see if it will kill it. This may take a few hours, be patient. Another method is to first brush the stuff and then take pH reducer and put it in a tube sock. You must wear rubber gloves and a good mask. Take the shock down to the algae or attain and rub it into it. If it changes color, it is in fact living algae and you can now treat it by following the program below. If it does not change color, we have determined that it is a mineral stain. Treating mineral stains is a very expensive and laborious process. You must be prepared that if the stain is embedded in the pool surface it may be permanent.

Here are a few tips as you begin your battle against black algae:

- Run your filter 24 hours a day.
- Brush, brush and brush some more. Brushing the algae will not remove it. Your goal is to remove the protective coating that surrounds it. The more of the coating that you can remove, the better chance you have of killing it.
- Try to keep the pH level on the lower end of the scale between 6.5 - 7.0. Algae doesn't reproduce at a low pH level. You will also have a better chance of killing the algae.
- If you do get the algae to disappear, you must immediately begin following a rigid algae preventative program. The two best products for prevention of black algae are Black Mustard and Silver Algaecide. You must add the required dosage on a bi-weekly basis. Failure to do so will cause the algae to grow again.

After vigorous brushing and maintaining a low pH, sprinkle Black Magic onto the water around the pool's edge to intensify the killing ability of the shock. You must then turn the filter system off and allow the water to sit stagnant. You should sprinkle weekly as close to the algae as possible. You should use two bags for each ten thousand gallons of water. Allow the shock to sit for at least 15 minutes. You must brush it multiple times. Immediately begin 24-hour filtration. If you do not see any progress, you may want to treat it as a mineral stain. It's worth a try. If you make a little progress, it may be necessary to repeat the process a few times.

Good Luck.

KILLING BLACK ALGAE