

## **Fitting liners**

Before fitting the liner:-

Check that the sizing, colour, pattern, gauge and specification of the liner are correct.

1. Make sure the interior finish of the pool shell is smooth and free from sharp projections. When screeding or plastering the pool shell, use soft sand, not sharp sand.
2. Pressure test the pool pipework. Should there be a problem of leaking later; the pipework will have already been eliminated.
3. Sweep out or vacuum the pool shell ensuring that it is clean and free of leaves, sharp objects and any other debris.
4. If the pool is indoors, check that no paint or varnish has accidentally splashed over the prepared screed as residual solvents in these materials can discolour the liner.
5. Wash the pool walls and floor with a 100ppm solution of Sodium Hypochlorite to kill any micro organisms that may be present in the pool shell. (These micro organisms can, if allowed to multiply, cause the liner to stain). After removing the deconcentrated washings of Sodium Hypochlorite from the pool, the shell should then be painted with a fungicide solution which will help to prevent the further growth of micro organisms.
6. If the temperature is below 10°C (50°F) we recommend that the fitting is postponed until warmer weather prevails. Conversely, do not attempt to fit the liner between 1100 hours and 1500 hours on hot, sunny days as the heat of the sun will cause the liner to stretch under its own weight. Further fitting difficulties will also be encountered as, inevitably, one section of the liner will be in shade and therefore be less supple than the areas in direct sunlight.
7. Ignore packing creases - they will disappear but this may take up to two weeks in cold weather.
8. Always leave the liner in its box when lifting into the pool, having first examined the box for signs of transport damage. If the box is damaged, check if the liner has also been damaged. Protect the liner from any sharp edges within the pool shell with felt or suitable masking tape.
9. Unroll and locate the deep end marker on the liner. This marker will indicate the deep end of the liner. Always remove this label and discard it. Failure to do so can cause a stain to appear through the liner several months later.
10. When fitting patterned liners take great care not to scuff the pattern with hard soled footwear. Try to fit liners in bare feet or at worst, wear soft soled plimsolls. Avoid the use of trainers as their soles are often quite hard.
11. Check all pool fittings have new gaskets - do not reuse old gaskets.

12. Tack in small sections of the liner beading into the retaining linerlock fixed to the pool shell just below the coping stones. Using the corner labels on the liner beading as a guide, find the four corners of the pool and fit a small section of beading either side of the corner. Then find the mid point along each side and each end and fit a small section of beading at these points. This method of fitting will:-
- (a) Lift the liner side wall clear of the base to allow you to see if the base of the liner is positioned correctly.
  - (b) Have the effect of distributing the beading evenly around the pool.
  - (c) If the liner has to be repositioned in the linerlock slightly, it makes it easier to adjust.

When you are happy with the positioning of the base of the liner, push fit all the beading into the linerlock. Overlap liners can be adjusted as the pool fills with water, although care must be taken to ensure that the base of the liner is orientated correctly in the pool shell before any water is introduced.

13. Vacuum fit the liner by introducing an industrial vacuum cleaner hose between the pool shell and the liner, sealing all points of leakage with paper masking tape. This vacuum will pull the liner back towards the pool shell to enable you to ascertain if any wrinkles are likely to be held in the liner should the pool be filled with water.

If, under vacuum, the liner contains wrinkles that are unlikely to disappear, the liner either needs to be repositioned or it may be the wrong size or shape for the pool. Should this occur, immediately consult the manufacturer.

**If you are not happy with the fit of the liner, do not proceed further and do not cut any fittings.**

14. While filling the pool, do not turn the vacuum off until there is at least 3” of water over the base of the pool at its shallowest point. Always cut side wall fittings at the last possible moment, preferably when they are just beneath the water level as the pool fills. Early cutting of fittings can lead to creasing of the liner when the pool is full. When fitting the liner to Roman End step units ensure that the base to side wall joint of the liner is not positioned too far away from the shallow end wall of the pool.