

Microbiology / Technical note

Pool Water Testing

Public pool water

As per the New Zealand Swimming Pool Standard 5826:2010, a public pool is any pool not used for domestic purposes. This includes pools in commercial establishments, schools, institutions, clubs, the hospitality industry, community centers, and local authority pools. Therefore, it is important to test all pools used by the public.

Available analysis:

Microbiology only:

- E. Coli
- Faecal coliforms
- Staphylococcus aureus
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa Count
- Heterotrophic Plate Count @ 37°C

We highly recommend conducting on-site tests for Free Available, Combined, and/or Total Chlorine, as they are not included in the packages we provide.

Note: Analytica does not provide consulting services on results or how to treat your water. Our recommendation is to present the analytical report to appropriately qualified water treatment or water quality consultants.

Sampling and Containers

The quality of results depends on the sampling technique used. This saying is commonly used in various testing fields such as water, clinical, soil, or agricultural testing.

Analytica provides pre-packaged sampling kits that contain the following (free of charge):

- 1. Poly bin with ice packs and pre-paid courier sticker for easy return.
- 2. Appropriate sample containers.
- 3. Chain of Custody paperwork can be downloaded from:
 https://www.analytica.co.nz/resources/download-forms/
 Please ensure that the customer information is included, along with a request for testing suites and all necessary contact details for sending the results and final invoice.

How to sample

- 1. Open the collection bottle and flip the lid downwards. Do not take out the tablet or rinse the bottle.
- 2. Dip the entire container into the pool, ensuring that there are no unwanted particles floating on the surface.
- 3. It is generally advised to submerge it around 30 cm (or elbow deep) below the water's surface and at one of the farthest points from the sparge pipes/inlets, where the recirculated water enters the pool.
- 4. Once the container is filled, securely close the lid again.
- 5. Note down the date and time of sampling on the container.

Note: MICRO container has a sodium thiosulphate tablet to preserve the sample. It is crucial not to remove or consume this tablet.

To make sure that samples stay cold while being transported to the lab, it is crucial to freeze the ice packs overnight before collecting the samples. Afterward, the ice packs can be kept together with the sample containers to maintain the cold temperature from the moment of sampling until they arrive at the laboratory.

It is advised to collect the samples in the afternoon and then deliver them to a nearby NZ courier depot for overnight delivery, as it is necessary for the lab to receive micro samples **within 24 hours** of being collected.

Returning Samples

- 1. Place samples into the supplied poly bin with the pre-frozen ice packs to keep samples cool through transit to the laboratory.
- 2. Make sure to enclose a completed Chain of Custody form in a Ziplock bag. It is advisable to label the sample with two unique references.
- 3. Tape the poly bin lid closed with packing tape or Sellotape to ensure it does not spill open during transit.
- 4. Attach the pre-addressed pre-paid courier sticker to the exterior of the poly bin for easy access by the courier.
- 5. Drop it off at a local NZ courier depot.

Results and Invoicing

Your results will be emailed to you via the email address you have supplied on your Chain of Custody paperwork. Once your results have been reported, you will be invoiced via email as well. The invoice will include all necessary payment details.

Thank you for choosing Analytica Laboratories part of ALS.

General Enquiries and Support

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Order Sample Kits

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