



C R E A T I N G A S A F E R S W I M M I N G E N V I R O N M E N T

Operating Instructions and Safety Information for the Pool Owner



Safely Operating Your Pool Cover



Dear AutoGuard Owner,

Congratulations on your purchase of a new AutoGuard Series safety pool cover.

Automatic Pool Covers, Inc. is committed to creating a safer swimming environment. Safety is an important part in the enjoyment of your swimming pool, and the products you have purchased are designed with your safety in mind.

Please spend a few minutes reading this owner's manual. It contains important information on the operation and care of your pool cover.

On behalf of the employees at Automatic Pool Covers, thank you, and enjoy your pool and pool cover.

Swim Safely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Shebek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael J. Shebek
President, Automatic Pool Covers, Inc.

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WARNING!

Walking on the cover should be for emergency purposes only.

WARNING!

AVOID DROWNING RISK

- Keep children away from cover.
- Objects cannot be seen under cover.
- Remove standing water on top of cover.
- Walk on cover only in case of emergency.
- Supervise children at all times.
- Inspect cover for premature wear.

WARNING!

AVOID DROWNING RISKS

Please read and follow the safety instructions
to avoid possible injury or drowning.

- Always keep water pumped off of cover to avoid drowning hazard.
- Leave the submersible pump on the cover when closed.
- Do not close cover until all swimmers and toys are out of pool.
- Cover should only be operated by an adult or owner.
- Remove key from keyswitch when not in use.
- When swimming, keep submersible pump away from pool area.
- Keep electrical cords away from pool area.
- Do not walk on cover except for emergency purposes only.
- Cover should be in full view when operating keyswitch.
- Never leave pool cover partially opened or partially closed.

PRIOR TO OPENING AND CLOSING POOL COVER

- Check and clear obstructions (towels, ladders, sports equipment, pool furniture, etc.).
- Check to ensure bathers are not in the pool during opening and closing of the pool cover.
- Check cover for water or debris (leaves, etc.) and remove with cover pump or pool brush.
- See page 2 for other important “Safety Instructions”.

KEYSWITCH OPERATION

- Keyswitch indicator light must be illuminated green, indicating power is applied to the cover system.
- If the indicator light is not green, refer to page 7 for additional instructions.

OPENING THE COVER:

- Remove the cover pump after pumping off water.
- Turn keyswitch to open position, maintaining finger pressure.

NOTE:

- Keyswitch indicator light will flash green: indicating cover is moving opening.
- Check for any residual water on the cover which may build up as the cover reaches the full open position.

- If water build up occurs while opening, stop cover by releasing keyswitch. Place cover pump on cover to remove water build up.
- Remove pump from cover after pumping off water.
- Resume opening the cover. Keyswitch indicator will flash green, indicating cover is operating. When fully opened, release the key.
- Keyswitch indicator light will flash red indicating cover is obstructed or water needs to be removed. A delay of 10 seconds will occur before the keyswitch resets to a green light.
- Resume cover opening procedure when keyswitch indicator light turns green and troubleshooting is complete.

CLOSING POOL COVER

- Check for obstructions (towels, ladders, sports equipment, pool furniture, etc.).
- Insert key into keyswitch and rotate to close position.

NOTE:

- Keyswitch indicator light should flash green indicating cover is moving.
- When fully closed, release the key. Pool cover will automatically stop when cover travels to the end.
- Remove key from keyswitch – Place in a secure location.
- Place cover pump on pool cover and plug in.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Submersible Pump

Attach garden hose to pump to remove water. The hose should be directed to an area that will drain water away from pool, preferably away from the cover housing.

Pump should be placed where water tends to form the deepest puddles.

Pump should be plugged into a G.F.I. protected outlet only.

The pump will automatically turn on and shut-off.

Inspect pump cord periodically for signs of wear. Frayed cords may allow water into the housing causing the circuit breaker to trip.

2. Cover Operation

Be sure all debris and water is removed from cover before operating.

Turn and hold key in open/close position. The key must be held in the proper position until fully opened/closed.

Your cover will automatically stop in both the opened and closed modes. We recommend that you release the key to stop the cover when fully opened or closed and use the auto-stop feature as a fail-safe.

Your cover should not be operated in temperatures below 35°F.

Your cover should not be operated if the water level is below the skimmer. Low water levels will cause the cover to strain and potentially damage the system.

When winterizing your pool, the water level should be kept **NO LOWER THAN 1" – 2"** (inches) below the skimmer. The cover carries extra slack to accommodate this winter water level.

The lead edge wheels (if applicable) should be raised during the season and lowered down to winterize. Water bags may also be used to winterize pool at the lead edge end.

Pool ladders (if applicable) must be removed or hinged so they can be raised when the cover is closed.

3. Keyswitch Operation

Keyswitch light function

Be sure all debris and water is removed from cover before operating.

- **Green light** = System has power
- **Green light flashing** = Cover moving
- **Red light flashing** = Cover stopped due to a strain on motor. *Release key and troubleshoot. After 10 seconds, system will reset. If flashing red light continues, turn power off and back on to reset system. If red light continues flashing, call for service.*
- **Red light** = Stop

MAINTENANCE AND CARE

1. Vinyl Fabric

When the fabric begins to show wear due to chemicals, age, heat and sun, it will become brittle and may compromise the safety aspect of the fabric. When the fabric reaches this point, it should be replaced. Contact your dealer at this time.

Inspect for holes in the fabric. Water can leak up from the pool and your cover pump will eventually pump pool water. The fabric can be easily patched. Call for service or a patch kit.

Inspect the webbing (the white material that runs in the tracks). If the stitching begins to tear or fray, the strength of the cover may be compromised.

To prevent premature fabric wear from potential chemical gas build up, open your AutoGuard at least once per-week

2. Tracking

Inspect the screws that secure the track to the deck/coping (if applicable). If they become loose, tighten the screws with a Phillips screwdriver.

Spray water into the track channel two times per year to remove potential debris buildup. (Spring and Autumn).

3. Mechanism

This mechanism is designed to be maintenance free; however, the recessed box the cover rolls into should be cleaned out at least once per year. Leaves and debris from inside the box can be “picked up” by the fabric and deposited into your pool.

It is also recommended that trained service technicians perform a “general maintenance” either annually or bi-annually. This service includes cleaning out the recessed box and an overall “tune up” of the system.

The recessed box, when installed properly, will allow water to drain. A drainage system may be needed, if this proves to be a problem. However, if water collects in the recessed box, it can cause undue wear on the system.

When adding chemicals, the cover should remain open for at least two (2) hours to allow chemicals to disburse. Concentration of chemical and chemical gases in the water might cause premature aging of the fabric.

Questions

Answers

1. Can I walk on the cover?

Yes, but we recommend only in an emergency.

2. Is the cover too big?

The fabric is manufactured to include extra material for winterization. Initially, the fabric could appear wrinkled or oversized but these wrinkles are normal and may smooth out.

3. Can the cover be opened/closed manually?

Yes, it can. Please contact your service representative for instructions.

4. If I drain my pool or if the water leaks out, should I close the cover?

Closing the cover when the water level is anymore than (6") inches below the skimmer could cause damage to the system. Fill the pool to a level where the water supports the system, or call for service.

5. The cover is opening/closing crooked, what should I do?

The cover needs to be adjusted. This should be accomplished by a trained technician. Please contact your service representative.

6. Should I leave the cover pump on the cover at all times?

The cover pump should be left on when the cover is closed. The only exception is during severe winter conditions. If it is too cold to melt the ice and snow on the cover, pull the pump off and place it in a warm area. Then place the pump back on when the ice begins melting.

7. What is the "popping noise" when I open and close the cover?

Sometimes the ropes will make this popping noise when they pass through the different pulleys and onto the rope reel. This is normal and not an indication of trouble.

The cover does not open when I turn the key.

- Is the green keyswitch indicator light on? If not, you do not have power to the system. Check your electrical service.
- If the motor is turning and nothing is happening, you might need mechanical service. Please contact your installation company for possible repairs.
- If the motor just hums, and does not turn. Call for service.

Water appears on my cover when it has not rained in days.

- Your cover probably has a hole somewhere and needs to be patched. Contact your installation company. They can send you a patch kit to easily fix the problem.

The cover stops half way closed/opened.

- The tracks might have dirt or debris inside. Clean the tracks out with water.
- The ropes could be tangled around the rope reel. Lift the lid and check the reels. If the rope appears tangled, you can try to untangle it yourself (be careful!) or call for service.
- Automatic Shut-Off (ASO) could be malfunctioning. Call for service.

The keyswitch indicator light is blinking red.

- This means the cover has stopped under stress. There might be too much water on the cover. The cover could be running crooked or there could be an object blocking the cover. Remove the water or blocking object. If red light continues to blink, call for service.

The cover is completely open and will not close.

- The cover might have opened too far and come out of the track. Call for service.
- Is the green keyswitch indicator light on? If not, you do not have power to the system. Check your electrical service.

Submersible cover pump is not pumping off the water.

- The Automatic Shut-Off (ASO) might be malfunctioning. Disconnect the dual plugs at the outlet and plug the smaller plug into the outlet. This will operate the pump without Auto Shut-Off. If the pump works, then the problem is the ASO, and it should be replaced. If the problem is not the ASO, then the pump needs to be replaced.