

Chlorine & Chemical Treatment of Water Features

Guidance for water features finished in powdercoat, and important warranty information

ISSUED BY	DATE	REFERENCE	APPLIES TO
PO Box Designs	January 2026	Water Feature & Warranty Guidance	Powdercoated water features

At PO Box Designs we want your powdercoated water features to look their best for years to come. Where clients wish to treat the water to keep it clean, the following guidance explains how to do so with the least risk to the powdercoated finish, along with important information regarding the effect of chemical treatment on your warranty. Please keep this notice on file for future reference.

Recommended approach to chlorine dosing

For water features finished in powdercoat, light and correctly dosed chlorine is generally acceptable for keeping the water clean, and at low concentrations should not cause problems for the surrounding surfaces. The key is to keep levels low and consistent rather than applying occasional heavy doses. We recommend the following:

- Keep chlorine at the **lowest effective concentration**. High or fluctuating levels are where the risk lies — prolonged exposure to stronger concentrations can, over time, dull the finish, promote chalking, or attack the coating, particularly around edges, joins and any minor imperfections in the surface.
- **Never** add chlorine in undiluted, granular or tablet form directly against the powdercoated surface. Always dilute it into the body of water first, so the surface is only ever in contact with dosed, diluted water rather than concentrated product.
- Avoid letting treated water sit stagnant against the coating for long periods, and rinse down any splashes or overspill from dosing with fresh water.
- Keep the water balanced — pH in particular — as well-balanced water is less corrosive to surrounding surfaces.

Our recommended approach — natural & biological filtration

While chlorine can be used with care, our strong preference and recommendation for powdercoated water features is to keep the water clean through **biological filtration, external filtration systems and natural methods** rather than chemical dosing. Biological filters, external filter units and planted or naturally balanced systems maintain water quality by breaking down organic matter and supporting healthy water conditions, and are far gentler on the powdercoated finish than chlorine or other chemicals.

Because every water feature is different in size, volume, flow and setup, we recommend that you engage a **qualified pump and water filtration specialist** to advise on, design and correctly size a filtration system to suit your particular feature. These experts can recommend the most suitable combination of pumps, filters and natural treatment methods for your installation, helping you keep the water clear and healthy while protecting the powdercoated finish and avoiding the risks associated with chemical treatment.

IMPORTANT — WARRANTY EXCLUSION

The introduction of chlorine, or any chemical treatment, to water in contact with powdercoated surfaces sits **outside our standard warranty guidelines**. Powdercoat warranties are based on the finish being used and maintained under normal conditions, and chemical dosing is considered an additional exposure that we cannot warrant against. Accordingly, should the client elect to treat the water with chlorine or other chemicals, any resulting damage, deterioration, discolouration or breakdown of the powdercoated finish will **not be covered under warranty**, and the client accepts full responsibility for that risk. The guidance above will help keep the risk to a minimum, and we provide it so you can make an informed decision.

If you would like to discuss the care of your specific water feature, our team is always happy to help.

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