

Inground Pool Care

Cleaning Pool Steps

latham

The Pool Company

The Best Way to Clean Acrylic Fiberglass Pool Steps (Molded Steps)

✓ Frequency: Weekly



1. **Clean Your Fiberglass Steps Above the Waterline:** Most fiberglass pool stairs can be cleaned using a sponge that contains non-phosphate detergent, such as the Magic Eraser. While you don't need a name brand product, you should look for a product with a soft, non-abrasive texture that won't scratch or damage your pool. ☐
2. **Clean Your Fiberglass Steps Below the Waterline:** We recommend cleaning your pool stairs while they're partially submerged, we do not recommend draining your pool. Lowering the water levels could damage your pool liner, leading to unsightly wrinkles — and costly repairs. ☐
 - **Method #1** — Raise the chlorine levels by shocking your pool, and be sure to maintain an elevated chlorine level for 24 to 48 hours.
 - **Method #2** — You can also use a rag, cloth or sock with a cleaning agent or mild acid to gently buff the submerged portion of your steps. Some pool owners use ascorbic acid, or Vitamin C.

How to Clean Vinyl-Over Steel or Vinyl-Over Polymer Pool Steps

✓L **Frequency:** Weekly



- 1. Double Check with Your Pool Builder:** Before you buy any supplies to clean your vinyl pool steps, contact your pool builder to ensure you're not using anything that could damage the surface. It's crucial to remember that the print on your vinyl liner was made using ink, which many cleaning products can damage or remove. For example, you should never use petroleum-based cleaning products (like Goof-Off or Goo Gone) on vinyl steps or pool liners, because they will remove the print almost instantly. ☐
- 2. Gather Vinyl-Safe Cleaning Supplies:** You'll need a few soft, clean sponges or cloths, plus a mild detergent or cleaning agent that's safe to use on vinyl. You can find these products online or at your local pool supply store. ☐

3. **Use a Sponge or Cloth for Cleaning:** Use your soft sponge and vinyl-safe detergent to gently scrub the pool stairs. Use slow, circular motions to achieve the best results. Since you're likely to miss a spot the first time, it's a good idea to repeat the process twice if possible. Like fiberglass stairs, vinyl stairs can be safely scrubbed using a Magic Eraser. ☐

4. **Try Raising Your Pool's Chlorine Levels:** If the washcloth and detergent method just isn't cutting it, you can try shocking your pool in order to raise the chlorine levels for several days. The increased chlorine levels will help make it easier to remove various types of deposits from your **vinyl liner pool** and steps, so that you get a better final result. For more help, check out our vinyl **pool maintenance checklist**. ☐

Professionals Are Here to Help

If any of these pool maintenance tasks seem a little too daunting, it is never a bad idea to call your trusted independent builder to provide these services for you.

[Speak to a Builder](#)