

Solar Pod



Zero heating costs

Solar Pod operates by harnessing the free energy from the sun and transferring it into your pool water. If used in conjunction with your existing electric heater, Solar Pod can dramatically reduce your energy bill.

Linking multiple Solar Pods together will increase your heating capacity and decrease the number of days required to warm your pool water.

Highly efficient

Solar Pod uses “heat trap” (glass-house effect) technology to capture energy within the ultra-clear

polycarbonate dome and transfer the heat to its polypropylene heat exchanger. Solar Pod’s clear dome also reduces the amount of heat loss from its heat exchanger caused by wind exposure. Solar Pod will make a noticeable difference to your pool water temperature when operated during the summer season (late May to September).

Unique design

Unlike conventional solar panels, Solar Pod’s compact, contemporary design will make an attractive addition to your garden. It makes sense, a solar heater that costs nothing to run, looks good and is virtually maintenance free.

Suitable for all Above Ground pools

One Solar Pod is ideal for pools up to 4,500 litres of water. For larger pools simply install more units plumbed in series. For example, a 12,000 litre pool will require 3 Solar Pods.

Solar Pod plumbs into your existing filtration pipe-work and is supplied complete with 32mm/38mm (1.25” & 1.5”) hose connectors. Solar Pod is supplied complete with flip-down feet to enable you to position it facing towards the sun.

Instructions for use

Instructions for Use

- Solar Pod needs to be installed facing south. Use the Solar Pod’s legs to tilt the unit for maximum exposure to the sun.
- Solar Pod will heat your pool water during daylight hours only. For best results operate your pool circulation pump from 10am until 6pm. **Do not operate Solar Pod outside these hours.**
- Solar Pod has been designed to work in conjunction with a Pool Cover. No noticeable rise in the pool water temperature will be apparent unless a Pool Cover is used whenever the pool is not being used. A Solar Cover would be ideal, offering even more solar gain.
- Solar Pod must be installed between your pool filter and your pool return fitting but not within 3m of the pool itself. Do not fit on your pool’s suction pipe-work.
- Solar Pod must be disconnected and stored away during winter.
- Do NOT allow children to operate this product.
- When installing or working on the Solar Pod, always turn the filter system to a setting that does not allow flow to the pool return.
- Install this product away from the pool to prevent children from using the heater as a way to access the pool.
- NEVER service this unit with the pool pump running.
- Do not use any petroleum based lubricant. Petroleum based products will destroy plastic parts.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

This instruction leaflet provides information relating to the installation, utilisation and maintenance of your Solar Pod. We recommend you read this instruction leaflet in its entirety and keep it for future reference. The Solar Pod is simple to install and effortless to operate once connected. These installation instructions are based on a few assumptions:

- 1) you have an existing above ground pool that is completely set-up and filled with water,
 - 2) your above ground pool is equipped with a pump-operated water filtering system.
- These assumptions are necessary as the Solar Pod, once installed, will be completely dependent upon your pool's filter pump to push water through the heater's solar coils.

How It Works

When properly installed, the Solar Pod will be connected between your filter and your pool return by two hose connections: One hose will feed cold, filtered pool water from your pump into one port of the Solar Pod. The other hose will feed sun warmed water from the other port of the Solar Pod to your pool via the pool return inlet. As cold water is fed into the Solar Pod, it travels through the solar coils where it is heated by the sun before it is delivered back into your swimming pool.

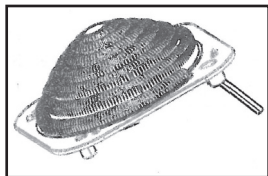
Unpacking Your Solar Pod

Carefully remove the product and all component parts from the box. Make certain all parts shown below are present before beginning assembly.

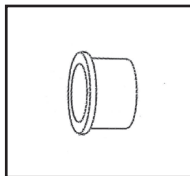
Tools & Equipment Required

The following items are not included with your new Solar Pod, but will be required for proper installation and operation:

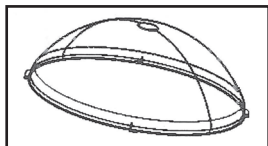
- #2 Phillips Screwdriver
- Silicone based lubricant



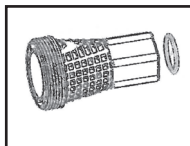
Main Base with Stand



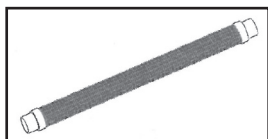
2 x Hose Reducer



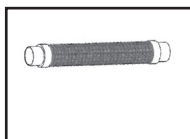
Clear Dome & Cloth Cover



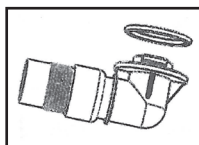
Adapter



1m Filter Hose



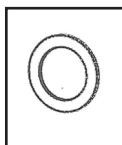
380mm Filter Hose



2 x Hose Connector



2 x Jubilee Clip



Gasket

Know Your Pool

Before you begin installation it is a good idea to know certain specifications of your pool:

How big is your pool?

- How many litres does it hold?
- What size hose does it use?
- What kind of hose connection does your pool use? (i.e. threaded / unthreaded)
- What location is best for maximum sun exposure?

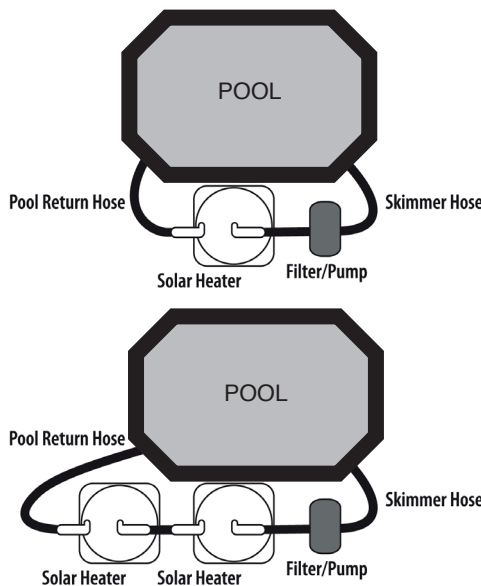
Solar Pod Location

You will need to position the Pod no more than 2.5m above the pool's water level and at a safe distance away from the pool.

NOTE: The Solar Pod is to be installed between the filter and the pool return inlet, AFTER the water has been filtered.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Solar Pod to Filter - Pool Layout



Shown above are single and multiple Solar Pod layouts. Note: The connections shown here are for reference only as the flow may be reversed to go into the heater at either the centre or side hose connector.

Place the Solar Pod in a location where it will receive the greatest amount of sunlight and at least 3m away from pool.

1) Solar Pod to Filter Pump Connection

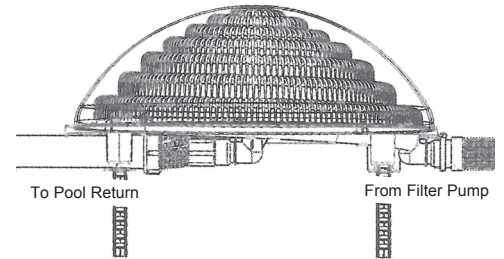
- 1) Turn off filter pump.
- 2) Block waterflow at the pool return inlet or partially drain the pool to prevent water loss.
- 3) Detach the pool return hose from your filter system and set aside.
- 4) Locate the hose connector on the underside of the Solar Pod.
- 5) Apply a small amount of silicone based lubricant to the hose connectors so that the long filter hose slides on easily.
- 6) Using a jubilee clip, secure one end of the long filter hose to the hose connector.
- 7) Using a jubilee clip, secure the other end of the long filter hose to the pool return port on your filter system (the port where the pool return hose was previously connected).

2) Solar Pod - Pool Connection

- 1) Locate the other hose connector on the underside of the Solar Pod.
- 2) Apply a small amount of silicone based lubricant to the edge of the remaining hose connector.
- 3) Using the jubilee clip, secure the loose end of your existing pool return hose.

3) Solar Pod Placement

Extend the two legs on the underside of the heater and face the heater in the direction of the sun's natural path.



4) Initial Operation

Once the Solar Pod has been assembled and the hoses are connected to the filter pump and pool return, unblock the flow of water into the pool return hose and turn on the pump and filter system. Air bubbles will shoot out of the return nozzle into the pool initially while air is pushed out of the Solar Pod. If this persists for longer than 2 or 3 mins, check for and repair any leaks in the hoses or connections.

5) Maintenance

To prevent damage, the solar coils should always be covered with the clear acrylic dome included in the package. The Solar Pod should not require servicing or maintenance other than winterising. Prior to the first frost, or at the end of your swim season, the Solar Pod should be removed from its connections to the pool, drained and stored in a frost free location.

Cloth cover

A cloth dome cover is included which can be used to cover the Solar Pod during the hottest days when your pool water does not need additional heating assistance.

Winterising

Drain all the water from the Solar Pod by disconnecting the tubes. Store in a location away from frost. Reconnect the pool return tubes with a pipe coupler (not included) or any properly sized 2-way valve if continued pool use is desired.

CAUTION

Do NOT allow standing water inside the Solar Pod heater to freeze. Water expands as it freezes and can rupture the solar coils on the heater.