

POOL COVER

SPECIALISTS®

A Division of Latham Pool Products



Check One:

PowerTrak™

ManualTrak™

Owner's Manual & Safety Instructions

Dear Pool Cover Owner,

Thank you for purchasing a PowerTrak™ or ManualTrak™ pool cover system!

We, at Pool Cover Specialists® are committed to helping you create a safer swimming environment and bringing the peace of mind that comes from knowing your pool is secure.

In spite of growing awareness in pool safety, drowning still ranks among the leading causes of death for young children. Consequently, we wish to stress the following precautions:

- *Pool Cover Specialists® strongly recommends multiple layers of protection, of which your new safety pool cover is one.
- * There is no substitute for constant adult supervision. Most drownings happen during a five-minute-or-less lapse in supervision.
- *Do not consider young children “water safe” just because they have had swimming lessons.
- *Instruct babysitters and others about potential backyard hazards.
- * Install a telephone poolside with emergency numbers posted, as well as your home address.
- * Beware of a free-floating cover. A child can slip beneath such a cover unnoticed.
- * Always roll your pool cover completely off the pool before swimming since someone can become trapped underneath a partially opened cover.

These are just a few precautions and suggestions. Please take a few moments to read the Owner’s Manual as it contains important safety, operational and care information about your pool cover.

From all of us at Pool Cover Specialists®, thank you and enjoy your pool and pool cover.

Sincerely,
PCS Management Team





 **WARNING**

 **DANGER**

**AVOID DROWNING RISK
READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS**

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- FAILURE TO FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DROWNING.
- WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF INJURY, DO NOT PERMIT CHILDREN TO OPERATE OR USE THIS PRODUCT.
- TO REDUCE DROWNING RISK, REMOVE STANDING WATER FROM TOP OF POOL COVER. A CHILD CAN DROWN ON TOP OF POOL COVER.
- REMOVE POOL COVER(S) COMPLETELY BEFORE ENTRY OF BATHERS - ENTRAPMENT POSSIBLE.
- NON-SECURED OR IMPROPERLY SECURED POOL COVERS ARE A HAZARD.
- DO NOT WALK ON POOL COVER EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY.
- INSPECT POOL COVER PERIODICALLY FOR WEAR. (SEE PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS)

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Pool Cover Specialists®

A Division of Latham Pool Products

800-369-5152

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: DO NOT OPERATE THE COVER WITHOUT FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN PERSONAL INJURY OR DAMAGE TO THE COVER.

OPENING AND CLOSING THE COVER:

1. Release the safety latch fastening the leading edge to the deck at the far end of the pool.
2. If the tether is still fastened to the leading edge from the last time the cover was closed, release it by unsnapping two tether clasps from the eyehooks on the leading edge.
3. Insert the drill into the drive slot on the drive mechanism.
WARNING: Do not activate the drill trigger until the spindle gear is inserted all the way into the drive slot.
4. Squeeze and then release the drill trigger to determine whether the drill is rotating in the direction necessary to retract the cover. If not, reverse the direction switch on the drill.
5. Roll the cover off the pool by pressing the drill's trigger, keeping a firm grasp of the drill at all times while the trigger is activated.
6. If the cover becomes skewed or obstructed while the cover is in motion, release the drill trigger immediately. Do not continue to retract the cover until the obstruction or "skew" has been eliminated.
7. As soon as the cover is fully opened, stop the cover by releasing the drill trigger. **WARNING: Failure to release the trigger when the cover reaches the open position could result in over-retraction and damage to the fabric.**
8. Remove the drill as soon as the cover is opened. NOTE: When attempting to remove the drill, if it is "tight" in the drive slot, reverse the direction of the drill momentarily to relieve tension on the gear sprocket.

WARNING: DO NOT LEAVE THE DRILL IN THE MECHANISM. PLACE THE DRILL IN A SECURE, PROTECTED PLACE.

IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS:

1. Do not operate the cover with swimmers in the pool.
2. Do not operate the cover when the water level is low.
3. Do not walk on the cover except during an emergency.
4. Close the cover and secure the safety latch whenever the pool is unattended.
5. Keep rain water/standing water pumped from the top of the cover. (Standing water could pose a serious health threat.)
6. Examine the cover periodically for wear. When the fabric becomes brittle and develops cracks, order a replacement fabric. (A badly-worn cover may not safely support weight during an emergency.)

The PowerTrak™ & ManualTrak™ Safety Cover

Manufactured with the highest quality of materials and engineered for low maintenance and ease of operation, your PowerTrak™ or ManualTrak™ cover system will offer you years and years of dependable service with just routine maintenance. As with any machinery involving moving parts, however, failure to provide proper maintenance or to abide by the Operating Instructions will adversely affect the performance of your system. The manufacturer urges you, therefore, to familiarize yourself with each section of this manual.

FABRIC STRENGTH

A properly installed PowerTrak™ or ManualTrak™ is a “safety cover” which meets or exceeds all of the A.S.T.M. standards for safety covers. It creates a protective barrier capable of supporting the weight of several people; however, intentional playing or walking on the fabric is discouraged since such activity increases the likelihood of sharp objects penetrating the fabric and could also interfere with the even roll-up and extension of the fabric.

Since the PowerTrak™ and ManualTrak™ are “floating” safety covers, the ability to support the weight of heavy objects (i.e., several thousand pounds of snow) would be compromised by an inadequate water level in the pool.

The cover has not been designed to accommodate situations where less than eighty-five percent of the cover’s under-surface is making direct contact with water. It is the pool water itself that supports the tremendous weight of snow or other heavy objects. The cover simply provides a protective barrier between the water and any objects resting on the top of the cover. Failure to maintain an adequate water level when the cover is in use could result in extensive damage to the fabric or a separation of the track from the coping to which it is anchored. More importantly, inadequate support created by an insufficient water level beneath the cover could compromise the cover’s ability to perform as a safety barrier. Therefore, be sure that your pool water is kept at its normal level, not just during the swimming season but during the “off season” as well.

WATER LEVEL


Since the PowerTrak™ and ManualTrak™ were designed as “floating” covers, failure to maintain the recommended water level in your pool could adversely affect the operation of your cover and result in damage to both fabric and mechanism. Do not attempt to operate the cover if the water level is so low that less than 85% of the cover’s surface is making direct contact with the water.

Another reason to maintain an appropriate water level is to support rain and snow that may accumulate on the cover’s surface. With ample water in the pool, the cover will support tremendous amounts of snow or rain water until it is pumped off; without such protection, however, the weight created by just a few inches of snow or water could cause the cover to separate along the sides or allow the track to pull away from the coping. Always maintain a normal water level.

CARE OF FABRIC

The key to longevity for your fabric is proper water balance as well as regular care and cleaning of the fabric.

Care of the cover is as simple as removing any sharp objects before rolling the fabric around the roller and removing leaves, insects, dirty water, etc.



When the cover does become soiled from dirt, organic matter, or undissolved solids from chemicals, the cover should be rinsed off with fresh, clean water. To remove suntan lotion or leaf stains, try using a small amount of diluted non-detergent cleanser. NEVER use detergents on vinyl material.

Patch even the smallest holes. Vinyl patch material and glue can be obtained from your dealer. If water penetrates the vinyl and comes in contact with the scrim (*the thread-like reinforcement*), the scrim will soak up water, carrying chemicals and contaminates to the inside of the material, which will lead to stiffening and/or contamination of the vinyl. Patching should be done on both sides, if possible.

The primary thing to remember regarding chemicals and your new cover is that you will almost certainly have to change the quantity of chemicals and the frequency of chemical application. With the proper use of the cover, chemicals will dissipate at a substantially diminished rate. Most Important: You must avoid a build up in the quantity of chemicals in the pool water. Such a build up may create improper balance, which may cause deterioration of the vinyl cover. After adding chemicals to your pool, allow the chemicals to circulate before closing the cover.

Please pay particular importance to the chemicals you use. Chlorine can vary in pH value dramatically. Long-term imbalance or consistently fluctuating pH can ruin your vinyl cover in just a season or two.

Please make sure that your pool service company or whoever is in charge of pool maintenance is fully aware of this information. Obtain a good test kit. A good rule of thumb: Do not cover any water you would not swim in.

INSPECT FOR DETERIORATION

Give your fabric a thorough inspection at least twice a year. Over the years, depending on your cover's exposure to chemicals, dirt, and sunlight, the vinyl will become brittle and eventually begin to crack. When this occurs, the polyester mesh will be exposed and begin to change the capability of your cover to support weight. Inspection for this kind of deterioration should begin with examination for leaks.

Patch the holes immediately. Any change in the feel of the vinyl, such as brittleness or stiffness, can indicate a problem.

If the mesh becomes exposed, repair the cover immediately. Inspect the sewing along the side of the cover. If threads are broken or frayed, the strength of the cover will be diminished. If you suspect a problem, please call your dealer immediately.

TRACK MAINTENANCE

Dirt and sand can build up around the fabric inside the track, especially when the cover is not frequently used, resulting in possible impairment of the cover's operation, uneven retraction, and premature wear of the fabric's nylon webbing. To flush out the track, first retract the cover, then squirt water under pressure down the full length of each track. Also, since your track is the primary means of anchoring your cover to your pool, inspection of the fasteners used to hold your track to the pool sides is as important as inspecting the cover. Make sure that all the screws are tight and immediately replace any missing track screws.

RAIN WATER REMOVAL & POOL COVER PUMP PLACEMENT

Since water on top of your cover could result in drowning, remove it as quickly as possible with the submersible pump provided with your system. Designed to activate automatically during the presence of water, the pump should be placed on the cover anytime your pool is covered. NOTE: Be aware that water accumulation on top of the cover can come from holes or leaks in the cover or from over-spray and misdirected sprinklers.

Do not be fooled into thinking that a small amount of water on your cover is "safe"; puddles on the cover can become consolidated into a pool of water several inches deep where weight is applied, causing water to migrate to the depression.

Normally, placement of the pump onto the cover will create a large enough depression to allow accumulated water to gravitate to the depression. "Snaking" the hose attached to the pump along the cover surface will also help move the water toward the depression created by the pump.

WARNING: Follow all pool cover pump manufacturer's instructions.

Place the pump on the cover first; then, plug in the pump. DO NOT stand on a wet surface while using the pump. Your pump should not be used for any other application not specified in these instructions. NOTE: Do not allow the pump to remain tipped over. The automatic on/off feature will not work if the pump is on its side.

PATCHING A HOLE IN THE FABRIC

To repair a leak in the fabric, retract the cover until the area to be repaired is on the top of the deck. Clean the area around the hole thoroughly and dry the fabric. The patch should have rounded corners and overlap all sides of the hole or tear by one inch. Apply the vinyl glue (available from your cover dealer) to the patch as well as the area to be patched. Wait until both surfaces are "tacky." Then join them together. For small "pinholes," clean the area and seal with a drop of glue. When possible, the cover should be patched on both sides.

CARE OF THE HAND DRILL

1. When not in use, store the drill in a secure and protected place.
2. Do not use the drill for any purpose other than to activate the cover mechanism.
3. Keep the spare battery charged.
4. If the drill powers out, exchange the exhausted battery with the fully charged battery from the charger.
5. Release the drill trigger immediately if the drill powers out or heats up. **WARNING: Damage resulting from failure to release the drill trigger would not be deemed a product defect and would not be covered under the terms of the Limited Warranty.**
6. Use the low speed only to operate your pool cover. High speed operation could damage the drill.

PROPER WINTERIZING

Particularly in colder climates, it is important that the pool water be kept at normal level during the winter. Only then will the water or snow be adequately supported, preventing damage to the fabric and track. Just a few inches of water on the cover can result in a thousand pounds or more of weight that could severely damage fabric, metal, or concrete if not supported by water underneath.

Once the water on your cover has become frozen, do not attempt to remove the cover until a thaw occurs; however, it still may be possible to add water to the pool through the skimmer should a leak develop during the period when the pool is winterized. Keep all water pumped off of your cover as freezing temperatures approach in the fall in order for your cover to go through winter with as little water on top as possible. When spring weather arrives or a winter thaw occurs, pump the water off. If precautions are taken, your cover will survive any normal winter.

CHEMICALS

It is important to note that with your PowerTrak™ or ManualTrak™ you will use far fewer chemicals than uncovered pools require. Uncovered pools require chlorinating at a constant rate because of constant dissipation. With proper use of your cover, however, loss of chemicals due to dissipation will be substantially diminished. The use of constant chlorinating may, in fact, be detrimental to the longevity of the cover material. It is important that you maintain proper chemical balance in your pool water. Over time, improper pool chemistry can damage the fabric and significantly impair its longevity. Also, avoid covering your pool for several hours following an application of any kind of "burn out" or "super chlorinating treatment".

A deterioration of your fabric caused by improper chemical use is not covered by the manufacturer's Limited Fabric Warranty.

POOL SAFETY

Thank you for purchasing a PowerTrak™ or ManualTrak™ safety cover. Although we make every effort to provide you with the safest products available, we want to stress the following:

A swimming pool can provide your family with hours of entertainment and the opportunity for healthy recreation. As a pool owner, be aware that you must ensure your child's safety. There is a risk of child drowning when around any body of water.

There is no substitute for constant adult supervision. Most drownings occur during a five minute or less lapse in supervision. By providing barriers between your child and the pool, you can avoid a tragic accident should your child momentarily slip away from your supervision.

- Don't rely on one system layering; safety precaution provides the strongest safeguard.
- Never leave a child alone - even for a second.
- Maintain constant eye contact with your children when they are around the pool.
- Do not consider young children water-safe because they have had swimming lessons. Swimming instructions for children under three years of age are not recommended.
- Instruct baby-sitters about the potential hazard to young children in and around swimming pools and the need for constant supervision.
- Train all caretakers in life-saving CPR and first aid. No exception.
- Install a telephone poolside with emergency numbers posted.
- Keep toys away from the pool when not in use. They can lure a child into the pool.
- Use inflatable toys only under adult supervision. They may deflate or your child may slip off.
- Post and enforce rules such as No Running, No Pushing, No Dunking and Never Swim Alone.
- Make sure you have rescue devices accessible poolside.
- Keep all doors and windows leading from the house to the pool area secure. Install self-closing mechanisms on doors.
- Enclose the pool with a barrier. In fact, fencing may be required in certain areas. Check your local city or county building code for more information.
- Install only child-proof, self-closing, self-latching gates around pool.
- Vertical bars on a pool fence should be no more than 3¼" apart. Avoid fences such as chain link that provide footholds for little climbers' feet.
- Place table and chairs well away from the pool fence to prevent children from climbing in the pool area.
- Alert your pool maintenance people, utility personnel, and your neighbors to keep covers, gates, and doors to pool closed and locked at all times.
- Check to ensure that spa and pool covers pass minimum safety requirements set by the American Society of Testing Materials.
- Never use a pool with its pool cover partially in place, since children may become trapped under it.
- Beware of a free floating pool cover. A child can slip beneath one unnoticed.
- Realize that a child can drown in as little as two inches of water. Drain standing water off of your spa or pool cover.
- Investigate using a pool alarm and/or monitoring system that can be worn by a child.
- Remove ladders and steps from above ground pools. No objects should be in the pool area for a child to climb on and into the water.
- Inspect safety and pool equipment regularly. Preventive devices are only effective if they are in working order.

Sources: Drowning Prevention Society; United States Consumer Product Safety Commissions; National Spa and Pool Institute's Operation Water Watch; and the American Academy of Pediatrics.



**LIMITED FIVE-YEAR WARRANTY:
POWERTRAK & MANUALTRAK MECHANISMS
WHAT CONDITIONS ARE COVERED?**

1. Subject to the exclusions detailed below, if any part of the extrusions, drive assembly components, or brackets fail to operate due to defect in workmanship or materials during the Limited Warranty period, the Manufacturer will, at its option, replace or repair the original component. NOTE: The Manufacturer's Limited Warranty EXCLUDES the labor to remove a defective component in preparation for shipping the component to the Manufacturer's Repair Facility. Similarly, once a component has been repaired or replaced and shipped back to the consumer, the terms of this Limited Warranty EXCLUDE any re-installation labor of the warranted component. NOTE: Shipping expenses to and from the Manufacturer is the responsibility of the consumer. NOTE: Warranty coverage for the gear-reduction unit from Bison Gear (black gearbox) is limited to 24 months.

2. This Limited Warranty will go into effect on the date that the Manufacturer receives the Owner Survey & Warranty Registration Questionnaire. If, for some reason, you have misplaced this form or failed to receive a copy, visit our website and register online. Before the Limited Warranty can be activated, it is imperative that the Manufacturer receives the warranty-registration information, which provides the Manufacturer with the ability to track the history of the cover system. Register within 30 days of purchase.

**Fill out the Owner's Survey Warranty Registration From online.
www.poolcovers.com**

3. The cordless hand drill and the pool cover pump provided with your cover system come with separate Limited Warranties provided by the Manufacturers of the two products. Warranty claims or questions regarding these two products should be addressed directly to the specific manufacturer of the product in question. Please locate and read the Limited Warranties provided by the manufacturers of these products in order to determine the scope and limitations of their Warranties and then save them for future reference.

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE NOT COVERED?

1. This Limited Warranty excludes incidental or consequential damages. Furthermore, this limited Warranty does not cover conditions caused by abuse, neglect, abnormal wear and tear, improper operation, failure to comply with printed instructions, unreasonable use, or failure to provide necessary maintenance of fabric, mechanism, or extrusions as described in the Owner's Manual.

2. This Limited Warranty excludes damage resulting from faulty installation performed by employees of the individuals independent not dealer employed from whom the system was purchased or consumers who self-install their cover system.

3. This Limited Warranty excludes labor to remove or re-install defective parts.

WHAT CONDITIONS WOULD VOID THIS LIMITED WARRANTY?

1. Failure to pay all charges in accordance with original terms of sale automatically voids this Limited Warranty.

2. Failure of the installer to follow the Manufacturer's Instructions during the installation automatically voids this Limited Warranty. (Exception: the consumer contracted with the Manufacturer to provide the installation.) NOTE: During the installation, it is imperative that the installer not deviate from the track-space and track-length dimensions used to manufacture the cover system and that the track and mechanism are installed in a "square" manner. An out-of-square installation would severely impair the cover system's ability to function!



LIMITED WARRANTY: POWERTRAK & MANUALTRAK COVER FABRICS (FIVE-YEAR PRORATA)

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE COVERED?

1. The Manufacturer warrants its fabric against shrinkage to the extent that the cover not be rendered inoperable as a result of “stress” created from a “tight cover.” Subject to the proration formula and exclusions described below, the Manufacturer, upon verification of the defect, agrees, at its option, to either repair or replace the fabric.
2. The Manufacturer warrants its fabric against deterioration to the extent that water not be allowed to penetrate the fabric in sufficient quantity to render the cover inoperable. Subject to the proration formula and exclusions described below, the Manufacturer, upon verification of the defect, agrees, at its option, to either repair or replace the fabric.
3. This Limited Warranty covers claims resulting from faulty workmanship during the installation for a period of ninety days from the date on which the installation was accomplished; however, all claims of faulty installation workmanship must be reported in writing within the ninety-day period and coverage applies only to those installations accomplished by actual employees of the Manufacturer. NOTE: If you subcontract the installation of your cover to someone other than the Manufacturer, you are urged to solicit from that contractor the extent to which the contractor warrants his installation.

HOW DOES THE PRORATION WORK?

1. Although proration for repair or replacement is calculated for thirty-six months (36) from the date of purchase, no deduction for proration will be charged during the first twelve (12) months.
2. The proration will be applied to the cost of a replacement fabric based on the most current retail price list available at the time Limited Warranty coverage is provided.
3. If the cover is shipped to the Manufacturer, it must be shipped by prepaid freight.

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE NOT COVERED?

1. This Limited Warranty excludes incidental or consequential damages as well as fading of the fabric color. Deemed to be the result of operator error, accident, or an “act of god” (i.e., wind or storm damage), all tears or punctures to the fabric or the webbing on the sides of the fabric are excluded from the terms of this Limited Warranty. NOTE: If the thread securing the nylon webbing to the sides of the fabric has disintegrated prematurely (often referred to as “sun rot”), resulting in the thread’s inability to secure webbing to fabric, then, repair (re-sewing the webbing) would be subject to the terms of this Limited Warranty; however, if the thread shows no sign of rotting and has merely been “lacerated” or “torn away” from the fabric, then, damage is deemed not to be the result of defect and repair to the webbing is, therefore, excluded from the terms and conditions of this Limited Warranty.
2. This Limited Warranty excludes the labor to remove or re-install a warranted fabric.
3. This Limited Warranty excludes any damage resulting from failure to follow installation instructions and/or faulty installation workmanship performed by individuals not employed by the Manufacturer (i.e., employees of the independent dealer from whom the fabric was purchased or consumers who self-installed their cover system).
4. All shipping expenses incurred in delivering a fabric to the Manufacturer for repair as well as the shipping expenses occurred in returning a repaired or replaced fabric to the consumer are exempted from the terms of this Limited Warranty.

WHAT CONDITIONS WOULD VOID THE LIMITED WARRANTY?

1. Conditions caused by improper chemical balance, abuse, neglect, improper operation, unreasonable use, or failure to provide reasonable maintenance of fabric, rope, or mechanism as described in the Owner’s Manual would void this Limited Warranty.
2. Failure to pay all charges in accordance with original contract terms would void this Limited Warranty.



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