

# VINYL LINERS DIRECT

## GENERAL LINER INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR IN-GROUND REPLACEMENT LINERS

### #1: PREPARE THE POOL AREA

- **Remove Existing Liner and Accessories:** Start by removing the old liner, along with any faceplates for skimmers, returns, and other fixtures. Secure any loose screws and gaskets.
- **Clear the Pool Area:** Eliminate all grass and roots within the pool area and about a foot beyond the perimeter. Use a ground sterilizer before adding sand to prevent future growth that could damage the liner.
  - **Level and Prepare the Base:** Spread a layer of masonry sand inside the pool walls to level the surface. Rake the sand smoothly and evenly, then tamp it down to pack it solidly. This creates a protective layer against any sharp edges of the pool structure. Ensure the sand used is clean and free of seeds, spores, rocks, or debris.
- **Create a Protective Cove:** Form a cove around the inside perimeter of the pool by compacting mason sand into a 4-inch high by 4-inch outward slope. Alternatively, place styrofoam cove strips for easier installation. Cover any exposed screws on wall joints with duct tape to protect the liner from punctures.

### #2: LINER INSTALLATION

- **Prep the Liner:** Place the liner package at the center of the pool. Open the package carefully without using sharp objects.
- **Spread out the liner** in the sun to allow it to warm up and become more pliable, ideally in temperatures of 70°F or higher.
- **Position the Liner:** With the liner centered, adjust it so the seams on the wall and floor align with the center of the cove. The floor seams should run straight and parallel to the sides of the pool. Walk on the liner with soft-soled shoes to avoid any damage.
- **Secure the Liner:** Attach the liner to the wall using the required method (e.g., snapping beaded liners into bead receivers or pulling multibead liners over the pool wall in a j-hook manner). Continuously check and adjust the liner to ensure straight seams and proper alignment as you work around the perimeter.
- **Begin Filling the Pool:** Start filling the pool to achieve a 1-inch water level, smoothing out any wrinkles with a soft bristle broom. Continue filling while monitoring for any trapped air pockets on the wall, adjusting the liner as needed to remove them.

### #3: FINAL ADJUSTMENTS

- **Inspect and Adjust:** Inspect all seams and the surface of the liner for any openings, holes, or punctures. Do not cut openings for returns, skimmers, inlets, or lights until the water level is 2 inches below each feature.
- **Apply Safety Markings:** Attach any “DO NOT DIVE” stickers provided with the liner, placing them 2 inches above the water level and ensuring they are clearly visible.

- **Final Checks:** Continue filling the pool, using a vacuum system to remove air from behind the liner if necessary. Adjust the liner with short tugs to smooth out any remaining wrinkles. Overstretching the liner can void the warranty and reduce its lifespan. Ensure the liner is supported by the ground, cove, and pool walls to prevent blowouts.
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- Wrinkles may appear, and are inherently natural, but do not affect the manufacturer's warranty. Vacuum systems can help remove air from behind the liner when placed in the skimmer hole. Adjust the liner with short tugs to eliminate any wrinkles.
  - A properly installed liner must be supported by the ground, cove, and the pool wall. An improperly installed liner will not support the weight of the water, resulting in a blowout, which is not covered by the warranty.
  - Overstretching the liner will void the warranty. Excessive stretching of the liner will shorten the useful life of the liner.
  - Be sure to refer to your pool manufacturer's instructions, as they will be an important source of information
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