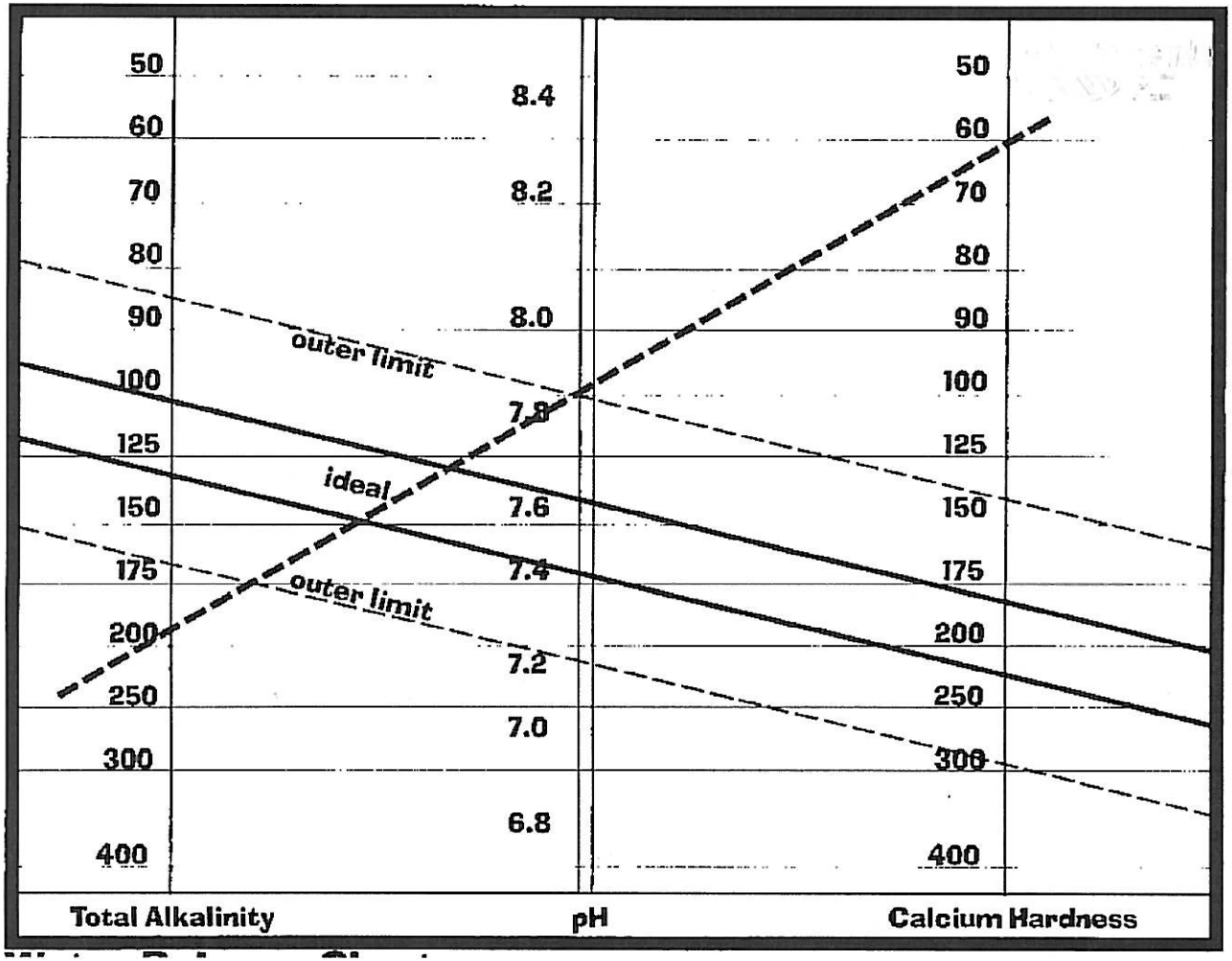
Water Balance Chart

It was discovered in the mid 1980's that a relationship exists between the three components of pool water chemistry - TOTAL ALKALINITY, pH, and CALCIUM HARDNESS. This relationship is aptly named "WATER BALANCE" and is necessary for maximum chlorine effectiveness. The chart (below) will assist you in extracting the maximum beneficial effect of pool sanitiser (i.e. Chlorine) by maintaining a "Balance" between these three factors



A line is shown drawn through Total Alkalinity & Calcium Hardness which indicates the desired pool water pH. Equally a line through the (Test Kit result) Total Alkalinity and pH will indicate the desirable Calcium Hardness level. Most pool Water Test Kits do not test for Calicum Hardness, so you will need to take a sample of your pool water to a Pool Shop that has the facility to test for Calcium Hardness, so check what you can at poolside .

The sample at the left shows a Total Alkalinity of "125", a pH of "7.5" and a Calcium Hardness level of "200" as being "ideal" - but equally a TA of 200 a pH of 7.8 and a CH of 60 would produce similar chlorine effectiveness, but it is recommended to keep the TA between the range 90-175, the pH between 7.2 & 7.8, and the Calcium Hardness between 130 to 300ppm to avoid problems with the pool finish and equipment. With fibreglass components (i.e. Walkout steps) keep the pH at the lower end of the scale, but not below 7.0

If your pool is "out of balance" yet showing a high chlorine level, you may experience problems with Algae and Bacteria in your pool - which is confusing to the newcomer, as there "seems to be plenty of Chlorine - yet the pool is GREEN" . Test for Water Balance two or three times per year.