

CUTTING CORNERS

# Automatic Cleaner vs Pool Brush

Nobody likes a dirty swimming pool, but who has time to keep it clean 24/7?

## Automatic

Automatic pool cleaners work off your pool's filtration system, so there's absolutely no need for you to be there. "Another huge plus is that using an automatic cleaner will reduce your chemical cost – they keep decaying debris to a minimum, reducing the need to doctor your pool," says Kevin Gardiner of SA Swimming Pool Suppliers. Our only concern? The pipe and mechanism buzzing around your pool don't look great – but from March you'll be able to buy automatic cleaners to match the colour of your pool, so they're less of an eyesore. The only energy you need to expend is to remove the automatic cleaner when you want to play Marco Polo in your sparkling pool.



Time taken to clean your average pool

0 (on your part)

# VS

## Manual

Okay, so this option is seriously time consuming, needing you to patiently stand and gently sweep your pool with a brush attached to a vacuum hose. And, frustratingly, the slower you do it, the better it works – if you try to hurry the process, you'll only stir up any sediment on the bottom of the pool. (If you're one of those people who find ironing and washing up therapeutic, this could be for you.) Gardiner does, however, advise that every pool needs a good sweep with a nylon brush once a week – the automatic cleaner can't replace this algae-controlling action.



30 mins



## MH LIVING DIGS



### Once you pop

It's lightweight, easy to hold and designed for someone with a wrist or hand injury, arthritis, or anyone who's ever struggled to get the lid off a jar of gherkins. Place the Jar Key against the edge of a lid and, with a slight lift of the key, the vacuum is released, making it easy to turn. Simple. It should fit all normal jars. So if your wrist is ruined by that 90kg prop who landed on you during a rough game of touch, this will keep you in easy reach of gherkins whenever the need arises.

WHERE Perfect Prezies

HOW MUCH R40

### Freshly ground

Remember that awkward moment when your father put his hand on your shoulder and asked you if you knew how to use a condiment? Well, this neat little invention keeps your condiments bone dry. With a clever little seal on the lid, you need not fear that a leaky bladder in your backpack will scupper any chance of a well-seasoned dinner. Made of polyester rather than acrylic, one side holds 20g of salt and the other 6g of pepper – just enough for two weeks away from home. Also doubles as a handy pill container. Just remember to check before you sprinkle immodium on your spag bol.

WHERE Zwilling JA Henckels

HOW MUCH R184



### Embellishing Space

Decorex 2007 is a show-and-tell affair. What are the forces driving modern design? Who are the new faces? This year the expo is themed "Embellishing Space" and it's going to be an inspiration to anyone who's thinking of adding, subtracting or just changing their space. It'll be at the Cape Town Convention Centre from 26 to 29 April, in Joburg at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, from 8 to 12 August and in Durban next year from 21 to 25 March. Come visit the *Men's Health Living* stand, meet the team and get amazing subscription offers.

### Return of the beanbag

Once you've sat on this thing, nothing else will ever feel comfortable again. You'll be ruined. Filled to the brim with copious amounts of memory-foam, these Fatsaks don't lose their shape over time – and they come in some outrageous fabrics from fur to corduroy. They're made in three sizes that range from large (1.2 metres across) to larger (1.5 metres) to incredibly large (2 metres), and just when you thought you couldn't be more comfortable, you can throw in a Fatsak and a Noodle. The Fatsak (not what you yell at someone who tries to remove you from your Fatsak) is an extra R550, and the Noodle (a neck rest) comes for another R100. The prices depend on the fabric you choose.

WHERE [www.fatsak.co.za](http://www.fatsak.co.za)

HOW MUCH From R1 999 to R3 899