

Home Swimming Pool Safety Checklist

The checklist applies to all home swimming pools in NSW unless an exemption applies.

Contact your local council for information on exemptions.

FENCE/BARRIER			To Do List
Is there a pool fence or other child-resistant barrier separating the pool from your house and adjoining properties and public spaces at all times?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the outside to the pool fence at least 1200mm high all the way around?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If a boundary fence forms part of the pool barrier, is it at least 1800mm high?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the gap between the bottom of the fence and the ground less than 100mm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Are all vertical or near vertical rails on the fence less than 100mm apart?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the distance between any potential handholds and footholds on the pool fence and its associated space at least 900mm apart to inhibit a young child from climbing over it?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If using perforated or mesh fencing, are the holes 13mm or less?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is your pool fence well maintained and in a good state of repair as an effective and safe barrier? (eg, no holes, broken rails)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If the wall of the house forms part of the barrier, is the wall without windows, doors or other openings through which a young child could gain access at any time?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
GATE			To Do List
Does the gate swing freely, close and latch by itself from any open position?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the gate latch working well so that the gate is secure and, once closed, can't be pulled open?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the gate open outwards, away from the pool?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the gate latch 1500mm above ground level or, if located inside the gate, 1200mm above ground level and at least 150mm below the top of the gate (if there is no hand hole) and covered by an approved shield?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Are you aware that it is dangerous and against the law to prop the gate open?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	



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AROUND THE POOL			To Do List
Is there an appropriate warning sign, including details of resuscitation (CPR) techniques, in the immediate vicinity of the pool area and which can be easily read?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Do you or others in your family have up to date CPR and first aid skills?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is your pool fence clear of any objects such as BBQs, trees, rocks, shrubs and deckchairs that could help a small child climb over the fence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there appropriate adult supervision for young children in and around the pool at all times?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Are the pool skimmer box, filter, outlet and cover designed in such a way as to prevent a child becoming trapped?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Are pool chemicals kept out of view and reach of young children?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Have you installed a conductive earthing system bonded to all conductive equipment (eg. metal rails, diving board, reinforced concrete) in the pool area to prevent electric shock?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the local council aware of the existence of the pool from the construction/installation approval process or through other means?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If the property is subject to a residential tenancy agreement and the pool barrier is sub-standard: Has the landlord/agent been notified to ensure that the barrier is rectified as soon as possible and/or has the tenant carried out urgent repairs to rectify any fault or damage causing the barrier to be unsafe (for which up to \$1000 may be reimbursed)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

Important Notes:

- This checklist is to be used as a guide only.
- For further advice on ensuring that your pool is fully compliant with the legislation you should contact your local council.
- Your local council can also inspect your pool and issue a compliance certificate if your pool is compliant with the legislation. A fee of no more than \$70 may be charged for this service.
- Pool barrier requirements apply to inground, aboveground and other portable pools capable of being filled with water to a depth of 300mm or more.
- There is no substitute for constant adult supervision of children in and around swimming pools to prevent drownings and other accidents.

