

SWIMMING POOL FENCES

(Based on the 2015 International Residential Code
Section N1103.10, N1103.10.1, N1103.10.2, N1103.10.3, N1103.11, N1103.12, CHAPTER 42.)
(2015 International Swimming Pool And Spa Code
CHAPTERS 3, 7, 8, 9, 10.)

This list is only a summary of the code.
All work is required to comply with the 2015 International Residential Code and
The 2015 international Swimming Pool and Spa Code.

CONSULT THE LISTED CODE BOOKS FOR A COMPLETE VERSION OF THE
FOLLOWING CODES.

SECTION 305 BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

1. A minimum 48 inch high barrier is required around the pool that complies with one or more of the following.
 - A) The barrier may not be located more than 2 inches above the grade.
 - B) The 48 inch height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier for horizontal distance of 3 feet from the outside of the barrier.
 - C) If the distance between the horizontal rails is less than 45 inches, the spacing between the vertical rails shall not exceed 1¾ inch.
 - D) If the distance between the horizontal rails is more than 45 inches, the spacing between the vertical rails shall not exceed 4 inches.
 - E) Mesh fence only provides a temporary, removable barrier.
 - F) Chain link fence must have a maximum opening size of not more than 13/4 inches.
 - G) The gate shall swing outward (away) from the pool.
 - H) The gate shall be self-closing and self-latching and accommodate a locking device.
 - I) The gate latch shall be located at least 54 inches high measured from the bottom of the gate to the latch. or The latch shall be located on the pool side (inside) of the gate a minimum of 3 inches below the top of the gate and there shall be no opening larger than ½ inch within 18 inches of the latch.
 - J) Double or Multiple Gates shall have at least one leaf secured in place and the adjacent leaf shall be secured with a self-latching device.
 - K) Utility or service gates shall remain locked when not in use.
 - L) A fence or barrier may not be constructed as a ladder effect, to prohibit children outside the pool to be able to climb over the fence or barrier to gain access to the pool.
 - M) A Clear Zone of not less than 3 feet must be maintained from the outside of the barrier and any permanent structure or equipment that can be used to climb on.
 - N) The pool or spa side of the required barrier shall not be less than 20 inches from the water's edge.

- O) If the pool barrier is part of one or all of the following, house wall, garage wall, shed wall or similar structure and there are access doors or screen doors or windows (with sill heights less than 48 inches) in the barrier walls, an alarm is required to be installed on that door, screen door or window that produces an audible warning when the door, window or their screens are opened. The alarm shall be Listed and Labeled as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017. The deactivation button may not be less than 54 inches above the floor.
 - P) EXCEPTION to the door and window alarms: A safety cover that is Listed and Labeled in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pools and spas.
 - Q) 2015 ISPCS (A102.8) Requirements not covered by code. Any requirements necessary for the strength, stability or proper operation of an existing or proposed system, or for the public safety, health and general welfare, not specifically covered by this code shall be determined by the code official.
2. Barriers shall be located to prohibit permanent structures, trees, equipment, storage boxes, or similar objects from being used to climb upon.
 3. All suction outlets shall be designed and installed in accordance with ANSI/APSP-7.
 4. Lighting fixtures other than the pool light shall not be placed over the pool or within 5 feet horizontally of the pool.
 5. All equipment is required to be listed and labeled.
 6. A convenience receptacle is required not less than 6 feet and no more than 20 feet from the wall of the pool. The receptacle shall be GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protected and the receptacle shall be covered with a weatherproof, in use cover.
 7. All conduits shall be buried a minimum of 18" below finished grade. (20" deep trench)
 8. All receptacles, panels, or junction boxes shall be mounted on a structural wall, post (usually 4'x4' pressure treated), or equal.
 9. All non-twist lock receptacles shall be listed weather-resistant type and tamper-resistant type.
 10. The pool pump shall be controlled with a time clock.
 11. Pool motor is required to be bonded to pool with an 8 awg solid copper wire.
 12. The pool pump is required be listed and labeled for swimming pool use.
 13. If the ladder is metal it is required to be bonded to the pool using an 8 awg solid copper wire and listed copper or brass connectors.

14. The pool water is required to be intentionally bonded to the bonding ring by a means of a conductive surface area not less than 9 square inches installed in contact with the pool water. There are products available on the market to help comply with this requirement. The use of a stainless steel hose fitting or a plate in contact with the pool water is some of the methods on the market.
15. All metal within 5 feet of inside wall of the pool shall be bonded to the pool with 8 awg solid copper wire.
16. An 8 awg solid bare copper wire shall be installed around the perimeter of the pool no less than 18 inches and no more than 24 inches from the wall of the pool. The wire shall be buried 4 to 6 inches deep. The wire shall be connected to the pool (with listed connectors) at 4 locations equally spaced. If the pool walls are nonconductive material the bonding ring would run to the pool pump.
17. Bonding connectors and machine screws or nut and bolts shall be stainless steel, brass, copper or copper alloy. Connecters shall be listed. Sheet metal screws are NOT permitted for bonding.
18. Pool heaters shall be equipped with a readily accessible on/off switch. Gas heaters shall not have continuously burning pilot lights.
19. Heated pools shall be equipped with a vapor retardant pool cover on or at the water surface. Pools heated to more than 90°F (32°C) shall have a pool cover with a minimum insulation value of R-12.
20. Existing overhead wires shall be a minimum of 10 feet away from the inside edge of the pool wall, and the outer edge of any diving structures. (All measurements are made at level line.)
21. Underground wiring shall not be installed under or within the area extending 5 feet horizontally from the inside walls of pools and outdoor hot tubs except where the wiring is installed to supply the pool hot tub or spa or where space is limited.