



## POOL/SPA ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

An enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:

1. Any access gates through the enclosure shall open away from the pool/spa, and be self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 54 inches above the ground.
2. Enclosures and access gates shall be a minimum height of 60 inches.
3. The maximum vertical clearance from the ground or other surface to the bottom of the enclosure shall be two inches.
4. Openings and member spacing shall comply with CRC 3109.4.1
  - **Openings-** Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter (102 mm) sphere.
  - **Solid Barrier Surfaces** - Solid barriers which do not have openings shall not contain indentations or protrusions except normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
  - **Closely Spaced Horizontal Members** – Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches (1143 mm), the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not be greater than 1¾ inches (44 mm) in width.
  - **Widely Spaces Horizontal Members** – Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches (1143 mm) or more, spacing between the vertical members shall be not greater than 4 inches (102 mm). Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall be not greater than 1¾ inches (44 mm) in width.
5. The enclosure shall have an outside surface free of protrusions, cavities, or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.
6. Above Ground Pools: Fencing requirements are the same for above-ground pools as are required for other pools.



## SWIMMING POOL SAFETY FEATURES

### **Section 115922 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:**

In addition to the Pool and Spa Enclosure requirements on page 1, when a building permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa or the remodeling of an existing swimming pool or spa at a private single-family home, the respective swimming pool or spa shall be equipped with **at least two** of the following drowning prevention safety features:

1. An enclosure that meets the requirements of Section 115923 and isolates the swimming pool or spa from the private single-family home.
2. Removable mesh fencing that meets American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Specifications F2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
3. An approved safety pool cover, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 115921.
4. Exit alarms on the private single-family home's doors that provide direct access to the swimming pool or spa. The exit alarm may cause either an alarm noise or a verbal warning, such as a repeating notification that "the door to the pool is open."
5. A self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor on the private single-family home's doors providing direct access to the swimming pool or spa.
6. An alarm that, when placed in a swimming pool or spa, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. The alarm shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F2208 "Standard Safety Specification for Residential Pool Alarms," which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared type alarms. A swimming protection alarm feature designed for individual use, including an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water, is not a qualifying drowning prevention safety feature.
7. Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the features set forth above and has been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those features established by the ASTM or the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Before the issuance of a final approval for the completion of permitted construction or remodeling work, the local building code official shall inspect the drowning safety prevention features required by this section and, if no violations are found, shall give final approval.

**CRC Section AV100.2 (5) (Amended to read as follows):** All doors providing direct access from the home/garage to the swimming pool area shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device. The self-latching device shall be placed a minimum of 54 inches from the floor.

**CRC Section R308.4:** Requires any glazing (glass contained within windows and/or doors) that is within five (5) feet of the water's edge be safety glazing.



## HOMEOWNER POOL BARRIER COMPLIANCE

Dear Homeowner,

As you may be aware, the City of Chino Hills requires that all Swimming Pools & Spas be fully fenced with permanent barriers that comply with the 2019 California Residential Code. The California Residential Code (CRC) also contains a requirement that any glazing (glass contained within windows and/or doors) that is within five (5) feet of the water's edge be safety glazing. In addition to the CRC, the City has adopted amendments to the following sections:

Appendix "G" section AG105.2.a is amended to add a new section a.4 to read as follows:

- Any garage man door that forms part of the pool barrier shall be equipped with a self-latching devise. The self-latching devise shall be placed a minimum of 54 inches from the garage floor.

It is the practice of many pool contractors to place the responsibility of complying with these requirements on the homeowner. Compliance with these requirements may also affect walls/fences that may be in common ownership with an adjoining neighbor.

The City of Chino Hills urges all homeowners to carefully review the terms of the contract with their pool contractor prior to signing the contract, so that the homeowner is aware of any responsibilities that the contract places on them. We also urge any homeowner that shares a common wall/fence with an adjoining neighbor to consult with that neighbor regarding possible modifications to their common wall/fence prior to signing any pool/spa contract.

When a permit is issued for your project the approved plans will contain an inspection card (job card), which will be your record of inspection. The approved plans and job card must be kept on site accessible to the inspector at all times. The plans and job card should be kept in a safe location out of the sun and rain. The job card contains a space for the inspector to sign-off for the final inspection. The City recommends that prior to making any final payment or signing any release, the homeowner verifies that the City inspector has finalized the project. The City also recommends that you refrain from using your pool/spa until the project has passed final inspection. The final includes inspections of your pools' electrical system and other life safety items that are important to your family's safe enjoyment of your new pool/spa.

If you have any questions regarding compliance with pool fencing or safety glazing requirements prior to signing this document or at any time during your project please do not hesitate to call Building and Safety at (909) 364-2780. Your family's safety is our primary concern.

In order to ensure all homeowners are aware of how the requirements contained within the California Building Code may affect their project, Building & Safety Division is requiring that the statement below be signed and dated by the homeowner, prior to permit issuance.

**PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE APPROPRIATE SPOT ON THE NEXT PAGE**

**I have read the requirements for Swimming Pool/Spa Enclosure Requirements and Barriers and safety glazing requirements and the amended sections included herein. As the owner of the property I agree to comply with all the applicable requirements contained within these attachments as they relate to my Pool/Spa project.**

---

Project Address

---

Pool Contractor

---

Homeowner Name

---

Homeowner Signature

Date