

ABOVE GROUND SWIMMING POOLS

Based on the 2009 International Residential Code, section N1103.8, chapter 42, and appendix “G”

THIS LIST IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE CODE

1. Pool wall shall be a minimum of 48 inches high, measured from the finished grade to the top of the pool wall
2. Where there is an adjacent hill or ground sloping toward the pool, the pool shall be a minimum of 48 inches away, measured from the top edge of the pool, or provide a 48-inch high code-compliant barrier (see #5a–c below for barrier requirements)
3. Pool equipment must be placed 48 inches from the pool wall to prevent the equipment from being used for climbing
4. Barriers shall be located to prohibit permanent structures, equipment, or similar objects from being used for climbing
5. Ladder shall be capable of being secured, locked, or removed to prevent access —*or*— Provide a 48-inch high barrier surrounding the ladder or steps that complies with the following:
 - a. Barrier may not be located more than 2 inches above grade
 - b. If the distance between horizontal rails is *less* than 45 inches, the spacing between vertical rails shall not exceed 1¾ inches
 - c. If the distance between horizontal rails is *more* than 45 inches, the spacing between vertical rails shall not exceed 4 inches
 - d. Gate shall swing outward (away) from the pool
 - e. Gate shall be self-closing and self-latching
 - f. Gate latch shall be located at least 54 inches high measured from the bottom of the gate to the latch —*or*— Gate 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
 - g. If the pool barrier is part of a house wall, garage wall, shed wall, and/or similar structure and there are access door(s) in the barrier wall(s), a door alarm must be mounted on the side of the door or screen door opposite the pool; the deactivation button may not be less than 54 inches above the floor; the alarm must be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2017
6. Lighting fixtures shall not be placed over the pool or within 5 feet horizontally of the pool
7. A convenience receptacle is required not less than 6 feet and no more than 20 feet from the wall of the pool; receptacle shall be GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protected; receptacle shall be covered with an in-use cover
8. Pool pump receptacle is required to be 20 amp, twist lock, GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protected; receptacle shall be covered with an in-use cover

9. Pool pump receptacle shall be placed at least 6 feet, but no greater than 10 feet, away from the pool,
10. Pool pump cord may not exceed 3 feet in length
11. Conduit for the pool pump and the convenience receptacle shall be buried a minimum of 18 inches below finished grade in a 20-inch deep trench
12. All receptacles shall be mounted on a structural wall, the post usually being 4-inch by 4-inch pressure treated, or equal
13. All non-twist lock receptacles shall be listed weather-resistant type and tamper-resistant type
14. Pool pump receptacle feed conductors shall be individual conductors installed in listed PVC or metal conduit; conductors shall be black/white/green, 12 AWG (American wire gauge) copper wire; the conductor insulation type shall be THHN/THWN
15. Pool pump circuit is required to be on a dedicated circuit; convenience receptacle may NOT be fed off the pool pump circuit
16. Pool pump shall be controlled with a time clock
17. Pool motor must be bonded to pool with an 8 AWG solid copper wire
18. Pool pump must be listed and labeled for swimming pool use
19. If ladder is metal, it must be bonded to the pool
20. All metal within 5 feet of inside wall of the pool shall be bonded to the pool with 8 AWG solid copper wire
21. 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; wire shall be buried 4 to 6 inches deep; wire shall be connected to the pool (with listed connectors) at 4 locations equally spaced
22. Bonding connectors and machine screws or nut and bolts shall be stainless steel, brass, copper or copper alloy; connectors shall be listed; sheet metal screws are NOT permitted for bonding
23. Pool heaters shall be equipped with a readily accessible on/off switch; gas heaters shall not have continuously burning pilot lights
24. Existing overhead wires shall be a minimum of 10 feet away from the pool wall, and any underground wires shall be 5 feet away from the pool wall; all measurements are made at level line