

INGROUND SWIMMING POOL FENCES

This information is based on the 2009 International Residential Code, Appendix “G”. This list is only a summary of the code. All work is required to comply with the 2009 International Residential Code.

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. If the distance between the horizontal rails is *less* than 45 inches, the spacing between the vertical rails shall not exceed 1³/₄ inches.
 - c. If the distance between the horizontal rails is *more* than 45 inches, the spacing between the vertical rails shall not exceed 4 inches.
 - d. The gate shall swing outward (away) from the pool.
 - e. The gate shall be self-closing and self-latching.
 - f. The gate latch shall be located at least 54 inches high, measured from the bottom of the gate to the latch **OR** the 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 a half inch within 18 inches of the latch.
 - g. 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.
 - h. 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 in the barrier walls, a door alarm is required to 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 is required to be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 2017.
2. Pool equipment installed outside of the pool fence must be placed 48 inches from the pool fence to prevent the equipment from being used for climbing.
3. Barriers shall be located to prohibit permanent structures, equipment, or similar objects from being used for climbing.