

Audit Checklist for Pools installed prior to 1 January 2017

This checklist is to assist people to determine if their swimming pool fence is compliant and if a pool fence is needed. This applies to all pools capable of holding 400mm depth of water. It is important you go through the checklist to ensure your swimming pool barrier is complying. NOTE: This is a checklist for your convenience, but does not cover every situation. |

✓ This pool was installed prior to 1 January 2017

Is a suitable barrier in place
Residential pools must have or be provided with physical barriers that restrict access to the pool or the immediate pool area by unsupervised young children (ie, under 6 years of age).

Fence

Fence Height 1200mm
- The fence shall extend - (a) at least 1200mm above the ground on the outside of the fence; and (b) at least 1.2 metres above any permanent projection from or object permanently placed on the ground outside and within 1200mm of the fence.

If fence height is greater than 1200mm perforated material can be used if openings are less than 10mm maximum diameter opening
- For barriers/fences 1200mm and above in total height, the aperture size of the fencing materials shall be no greater than 10 mm diameter

If fence height is greater than 1800mm perforated material sized less than 35mm maximum diameter opening
*- For barriers/fences 1800 mm and above in total height, the aperture size of the fencing materials shall be no greater than 35 mm diameter.
- Barriers/fences using link mesh or fabric shall include a strainer wire or rail at the top and the bottom of the barrier.
- Barriers/fences that require a strainer wire to be used to maintain their rigidity at finished floor or ground level shall be located at or below finished floor/ground level*

If fence height is greater than 3000mm, perforated material sized less than 53mm maximum diameter opening
*- For barriers/fences 3000 mm and above in total height, the aperture size of the fencing materials shall be no greater than 53 mm diameter.
- Barriers/fences using link mesh or fabric shall include a strainer wire or rail at the top and the bottom of the barrier.
- Barriers/fences that require a strainer wire to be used to maintain their rigidity at finished floor or ground level shall be located at or below finished floor/ground level*

No fence or gate shall have a clearance greater than 100mm to ground or between vertical rails or panels
*- Any clearance between the bottom of the fence and ground level shall not exceed 100 mm
- The spacing between adjacent vertical pales, panels, or other posts shall not exceed 100 mm at any point*

No obstructions within 1200mm of the outside of the pool barrier which could be used to assist in climbing
- There shall be no climbable objects on the outside within 1200mm of the top of the barrier / fence

On the outside of the pool barrier (Including adjoining fences) – horizontal rails more than 900mm
- A fence may have horizontal supports, rails, rods, or wires, that are accessible for use for climbing from the outside, and horizontal bracing that is accessible for such use, if the distance between any 2 of them at any point is at least 900mm

No projections or indentations greater than 10mm
- Projections from or indentations into the outside surface of the barrier/fencing, or any combination of projections and indentations, shall not form a substantially horizontal surface with a depth greater than 10 mm, unless they are spaced not less than 900 mm vertically apart

<input type="checkbox"/>	No horizontal surfaces greater than 10mm within 300mm on the inside of the pool barrier unless spaced more than 900mm apart This includes horizontal rails if the pailings are spaced more than 10mm apart	- Where any nearby horizontal surface that could be used as holds for climbing are located near the inside of the fencing and where the spacing between vertical members is greater than 10mm, such surfaces shall be separated from the fencing by a distance of not less than 300mm. NZS8500:2006 3.3.6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balcony floor within 2400mm of the pool barrier has a pool compliant barrier	- Where a balcony extends into the immediate swimming and it less than 2400mm vertically above the swimming pool area; the barrier on the balcony needs to be meet the requirements of the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act
	Boundary Fence	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Horizontal boarding shall have no gaps	- Projections from or indentations into the outside surface of the barrier/fencing, or any combination of projections and indentations, shall not form a substantially horizontal surface with a depth greater than 10 mm, unless they are spaced not less than 900 mm vertically apart
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fence and attached materials secure	- The fence materials need to be secured to ensure access to the swimming pool is restricted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minimum distance between horizontal rails 900mm	- A fence may have horizontal supports, rails, rods, or wires, that are accessible for use for climbing from the outside, and horizontal bracing that is accessible for such use, if the distance between any 2 of them at any point is at least 900 mm
	Gate	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gate opens outwards	- Every gate or door shall be so mounted that it cannot open inwards towards the immediate pool area.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No means provided to hold gate open	- It is the property owners' responsibility to ensure compliance with the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987 which includes "no means of holding the gate open."
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gate is at least 1200mm high	-The fence / gate shall extend - (a) at least 1.2 metres above the ground on the outside of the fence / gate; and (b) at least 1.2 metres above any permanent projection from or object permanently placed on the ground outside and within 1.2 metres of the fence/ gate
<input type="checkbox"/>	The gate latch is positioned in a way that it cannot be reach by a child from outside the pool area	- Where the release to the latching device or the latch is located at a height less than 1500 mm above the finished floor the location of the release of the latching device shall: - Not be on the outside of the barrier/fencing; - Not be in such a position that to release the latching device from the outside it will be necessary to reach over or through the barrier/fencing at a height of less than 1200 mm above the finished floor level and - Be at least 150 mm below the top of the gate if a hand hole is not provided, or at least 150 mm below the edge of any hand hole opening if a hand hole is provided
<input type="checkbox"/>	If latching device is outside, height to be 1500mm	- Where the latching device is accessible from the outside of the fence, gate, or door, the latching device shall be at least 1500mm above the ground on the outside of the fence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gate must return automatically to closed position when released	- Every gate or door shall be fitted with a device that will automatically return the gate or door to the closed position and operate the latching device when the gate or door is stationary and 150 mm from the closed and secured position
<input type="checkbox"/>	Are any gates Permanently padlocked?	- It is the owner of the properties responsibility to ensure that the gate remains closed and locked at all times or alternatively self closes and latches when released from 150mm

<input type="checkbox"/>	Are there any Double gates?	- Double gates shall both independently self-close and self-latch or one leaf of the gate shall be permanently fixed in a closed position with the second leaf complying with being able to self-close and self-latch when released from 150mm
	Windows	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Opening windows less than 1200mm from floor have safety latches restricting the window from opening greater than 100mm	- Where there is a window that can open above and within 2400 mm vertically of the immediate pool area the window shall have either: a) The lower edge of the opening no less than 1000 mm above the floor inside the building with no projections underneath of more than 10 mm, or b) A restrictor limiting the size of the opening such that a 100 mm diameter sphere cannot pass through, or c) A permanently fixed screen over the opening that a 100 mm diameter
	Exemption Requirement Doors	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Doors with locks as per an exemption granted from the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987	- If there is an exemption granted from the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987 for doors leading to the immediate swimming pool area from the dwelling a condition of the exemption was that a lock was to be fitted at 1500mm and operating in a way to prevent the door being readily opened by a child.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No means to hold doors open	- The Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987 states that every gate or door shall be so that it is clear of any obstruction that could hold the gate or door open and no other means of holding the gate or door open is provided

	Audit Checklist for Above Ground Pool installed prior to 1 January 2017	
✓	This pool was installed prior to 1 January 2017	
	Pool Wall As Barrier	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is the Pool Wall Used As a Barrier	- Residential pools must have or be provided with physical barriers that restrict access to the pool or the immediate pool area by unsupervised young children (ie, under 6 years of age).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladder Removed	- It is the property owners' responsibility to ensure that the steps / ladder is removed and there is no way for a child to access the swimming pool without an adult present.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minimum pool height 1200mm	- Pool barriers not on a property boundary shall have a height of not less than 1200 mm from the finished floor or ground level outside the pool barrier
<input type="checkbox"/>	No climbable objects within 1200mm of the swimming pool	- There shall be no ground features or objects outside a pool barrier within 1200 mm of the top of the barrier that would assist a child in climbing

	Water	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Backflow Prevention fitted on tap nearest to pool (even if ballcock system is used)	- The Building Code and the Local Government Act have the requirement that any water supply is protected from the likelihood of cross-contamination between potable (drinkable) and non-potable supplies. The minimum requirement being an atmospheric vacuum breaker fitted to the hose tap used to top up the pool. Even if there is an automatic leveller a backflow is required to be fitted to the tap. Pool / Spa Water is assessed as a medium level hazard as per G12/AS1 3.3.2