

**INSPECTIONS,
FENCING AND ALARM REQUIREMENTS
FOR SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS, AND HOT TUBS**

DEFINITION

A POOL IS ANY SWIMMING, WADING, SPA, OR HOT TUB, WHICH CONTAINS WATER EIGHTEEN INCHES (18") OR MORE IN DEPTH WHETHER PERMANENTLY INSTALLED OR PORTABLE.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

1. A permit is required for the installation of any body of water which is permanently installed on your property in which the depth of the water is eighteen (18) inches or more.
2. Permits are not required to set up any pool which holds less than 5000 gallons and is above ground.
3. A permit is required however for any electrical work or underground plumbing installed regardless of whether the pool or spa is above ground or below the surface of the ground.

WHAT TO PROVIDE TO OBTAIN PERMIT

1. If a pool contractor is obtaining the pool permit, he or she is required to have a valid state contractor license and up to date worker compensation policies or a letter of exemption on file with the City of Bakersfield.
2. If taking out a pool permit as an owner/builder, a list of sub-contractors with valid state contractor licenses and up to date worker compensation policies must be submitted before the permit will be issued.
3. Both contractors and owner/builders will provide one set of plans containing a plot plan with the location of pool showing distances away from structures and property lines and structural plans that shall be signed with a wet seal by a California Licensed Engineer.

SETBACK REQUIREMENTS (see figure 1)

When installing any water body all setback requirements are measured from the inside water face of the pool.

1. The water face must be a least 5 feet from property lines.(see Ø)
2. Five (5) feet from structures such as sheds. (See Û)
3. Five (5) feet from house (or equal or greater than the depth of pool if deeper than 5'-0" in all 3 situations.
4. (see Û .)

PROTECTIVE ENCLOSURES

Yards containing swimming pools, spas, hot tubs or any other body of water are 18 inches or more in depth must have a fence or wall completely surrounding it so that the water body is inaccessible to small children.

An enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:

- C Any access gates through the enclosure open away from the swimming pool, and are self-closing with a self-latching devise placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground.
- C A minimum height of 60 inches.
- C A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure of two inches.
- C Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than four inches in diameter.
- C 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.

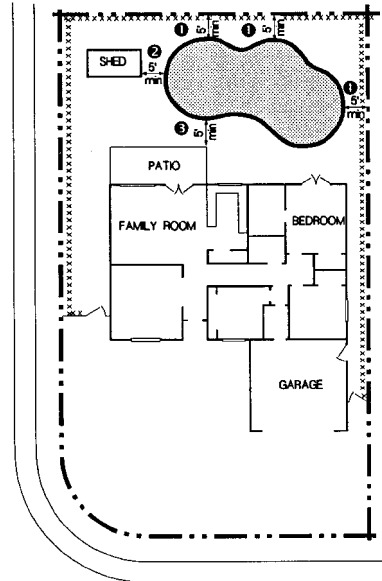


Figure 1

SAFETY FEATURES

Commencing January 1, 1998, except as provided in Section 115925, whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool at a private, single-family home it shall be equipped with at least one of the following safety features:

- C The pool shall be isolated from access to a home by an enclosure that meets the requirements of Section 115923.
- C The pool shall be equipped with a cover approved by the administrative authority.
- C The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool.
- C All doors providing direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor.

OTHER MEANS OF PROTECTION

If the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth in subdivision (a) to (d), inclusive, as determined by the building official of the jurisdiction issuing the applicable building permit. Any ordinance governing child access to pools adopted by a political subdivision on or before January 1, 1997, is presumed to afford protection that is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the devices set forth in subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive.

ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

- C Wiring to swimming pool and spa must originate directly from the service panel; be contained in RMC, EMT, or PVC conduit; include an insulated ground wire.
- C A 120V GFCI protected receptacle must be located at least 10 feet but not more than 20 feet from the inside walls of a permanently installed pool.
- C A pool or spa underwater light fixture must be GFCI protected. No lighting fixtures may be installed above a pool or spa or within 5 feet horizontally from the inside walls.
- C The pool light, all metal parts within 5 feet of the inside wall and all metal parts of the circulation system electrical equipment must be bonded with a solid #8 copper conductor.

PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS

- C All motors, heaters, and filters must be securely anchored to a cement pad.
- C All heaters must remain 4 feet from property line to the nearest edge of exhaust vent.
- C Gas lines must be sleeved and vented when passing under concrete slabs wider than 5 feet.

**For Additional Information
Please Contact**

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