



# Pool Barrier Compliance

# BI-17

California Building Code Section 3109 has included the California Swimming Pool Safety Act to regulate statewide measures to prevent drowning of children. The barriers will be inspected prior to the plastering inspection and all deficiencies corrected prior to approval to plaster and fill the pool. At the final inspection all measures must be in place..

I further acknowledge and understand that as soon as my swimming pool/spa is filled with water and after final inspection, I am responsible to maintain the required pool barriers at all times.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Project Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Permit Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor (Signature)

**POOL BARRIER COMPLIANCE FORM  
SHALL BE SIGNED PRIOR TO PERMIT ISSUANCE**

City of San Clemente Building Division, 910 Calle Negocio, Suite 100, San Clemente, CA 92673  
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## **Pool Barrier and Safety Devices**

- A. Pools must have two safety measures to prevent unauthorized entry or warn of entry into the pool. The first measure is always the pool barrier that surrounds the pool. The second measure will be one of the following methods:**
- 1. An electric automatic safety pool cover conforming to ASTM Standard F-I 346-91 with control for the pool cover mounted at least 54 inches above grade, or,**
  - 2. An alarm placed in the 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 including water motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared systems or,**
  - 3. Other means of protection may be acceptable as long as the degree of protection provided is not less than that required by any of the devices described above.**
- B. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier two additional safety measures shall be used. Any two of the six measures listed below may be used to separate and protect the occupants of the home. The intent is to always provide two methods of protection from any possible point of entry.**
- 1 Removable mesh fencing that meets ASTM standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device or,**
  - 2 Self-closing exterior doors with self-latching devices installed at fifty-four (54") above inside floor level or,**
  - 3 All doors opening into the pool area supervised by an alarm that will sound an alarm noise or a verbal warning, or**
  - 4. An electric automatic safety pool cover conforming to ASTM Standard F-I 346-91 with control for the pool cover mounted at least 54 inches above grade, or,**
  - 5. An alarm placed in the 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 including water motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared systems or,**
  - 6. Other means of protection may be acceptable as long as the degree of protection provided is not less than that required by any of the devices described above.**
- C. Where an above ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps, then**
- (1) the ladder or steps shall be capable of being raised, locked, or removed to prevent access or,**
  - (2) the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of a barrier.**
- D. Access doors to indoor swimming pools shall be self-closing and self-latching and a second method to warn of unauthorized entrance into the pool.**
- E. In ground spas are less than 8 feet in any dimension. Spas with a cover are exempt from the barrier requirements. The cover must be in place when the spa is not in use. Lap pools and pools greater than 8 feet in any dimension are treated as pools and have the same barrier requirements.**

**F. A self-contained, portable above ground spa equipped with an approved locking safety over meeting ASTM Standard ES 13-89 may be exempt from the barrier requirements.**

**G. All swimming pool and spa water shall be maintained in a clear condition that is free of algae, insects, debris, and in a sanitary condition.**

### **Pool Barrier and Safety Device Details**

Definition of a pool is any swimming pool, hot tub, spa or similar outdoor body of water intended for swimming or recreation and is eighteen inches (18") or more in depth located at a single family residence.

#### Barrier requirements and details

- The top of the enclosure shall be at least sixty inches (60") above grade measured on side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool.
- Openings in the enclosure shall not allow passage of a four inch (4") diameter sphere. Shrubs, trees or landscape materials cannot be considered as part of the barrier. The bottom of a fence shall be no more than 2 inches above grade.
- Solid enclosures, such as masonry, concrete or stone walls shall not contain indentations, protrusions or plants closer than forty-five inches (45") apart vertically, horizontally, or from top of wall, except for tooled masonry joints.
- Any configuration providing ladder-like access allowing unauthorized entry to the pool area shall be prohibited. Ladder-like access shall mean any method or action such as climbing, crawling, pushing, jumping or other means to gain access to a pool or spa area.
- Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members, the distance between the tops of the horizontal members shall be forty-five inches (45") or more. Openings between vertical members shall not exceed four inches (4").
- Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be two and one-quarter inches (2¼") unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than one and three-quarter inches (1¾"). The wire shall not be less than 9 gauge.
- Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be no more than one and three-quarter inches (1¾").
- All access gates shall open outward away from the pool, spa or hot tub and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than fifty-four inches (54") from the bottom of the gate or adjoining grade,
  - (1) the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least three inches below the top of the gate, and
  - (2) the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than one-half inch (1/2") within twenty-four inches (24") of the release mechanism.

Above Ground pool



Removable fence with gate



Automatic pool cover

Pool entry alarm, may be sonic, laser or other approved device



A compliant pool barrier fence.



Below is a non-compliant barrier fence. The horizontal members must be 45 inches apart to prevent a climbable condition.

