

# Pool Requirements

As per the International Residential Code (IRC) 2009, Appendix G

## Section AG102 – Definitions:

**Swimming Pool.** Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches (610mm) deep. This includes in-ground, above-ground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.

## Section AG105 – Barrier Requirements (condensed):

**AG105.2 – Outdoor swimming pool.** An outdoor swimming pool shall be provided with a barrier which shall comply with the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be 48" above grade measured on the side facing away from the pool and shall have no more than 2" clearance beneath. Where the barrier is mounted on an above ground pool, the maximum clearance between the bottom of the barrier and pool is 4".
2. Openings in the barrier may not allow passage of a 4" sphere.
3. Solid barriers such as a wall may not be climbable.
- 4&5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members the horizontal members must be located on the pool side of the barrier.
6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fence is 2.25".
7. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members (lattice) the maximum opening is 1.75"
8. Access gates shall comply with above items 1-7 and shall be self closing and self latching and only open outward, away from the pool unless they are utility gates and then they only need to be self latching. If the release mechanism for the gate is located less than 54" from the bottom of the gate the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following
  - 8.1. The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3" below the top of the gate, and
  - 8.2. The gate and barrier shall have no openings greater than .5" (12.7mm) within 18" of the release mechanism.
9. If a wall of a dwelling is part of the barrier then the following apply:
  - 9.1. See safety cover AG105.5; or
  - 9.2. All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall must be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and/or its screen (if present) are opened. The alarm shall be listed and Labeled in accordance with UL 2017. The deactivation switch(es) shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door;

**9.3.** Self closing, self latching doors as approved by inspector.

**10.** Where an above ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is located atop of the above ground pool structure, and a means of access is a ladder or steps then:

**10.1.** The ladder or steps shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or

**10.2.** The ladder or steps shall be surrounded with a barrier that meets Items 1-9

**AG105.4 – Prohibited Locations.** Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers.

**AG105.5 – Barrier Exceptions.** Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346 shall be exempt from this appendix.

**As per the International Residential Code (IRC) 2009, Chapter 42 (condensed)**

**This section applies to:**

**Permanently installed swimming, wading immersion and therapeutic pools.** Those that are constructed in the ground or partially in the ground, and all others capable of holding water with a depth greater than 42 inches, and all pools installed inside of a building, regardless of water depth, whether or not served by electrical circuits of any nature.

**E4202.2.** Flexible cords shall not exceed 3' in length for non storable pools.

**E4203.1.1.** Receptacles that provide power for the pump shall be permitted to be between 6 and 10 feet from the inside walls of the pool and where so located shall be single and be of the locking and grounding type as well as GFCI protected. Other receptacles on the property may not be located less than 6' from the inside walls of the pool

**E4203.1.2.** At least one 125v, 15 or 20 ampere receptacle.., shall be located a minimum of 6' but not more than 20' from the inside walls of the pool or outdoor spa or hot tub. This receptacle shall be located not more than 6 feet 6 inches above the floor, platform, or grade level serving the pool, spa or hot tub.

**E4203.1.3.** All receptacles, new or existing on the property located within 20' of the inside walls of the pool shall be GFCI protected

**E4204.** All metallic parts of a pool that could be energized must be bonded, such parts include; rebar, tie wires, stone coping, forming shells, underwater luminaries, lighting mounting brackets, motors, heating systems, metal sheathed cables, raceways, and *all metal piping within 5' of the pool*. Such bonding shall use a solid 8 AWG copper conductor.

**E4206.2** All hardwired pool equipment shall be GFCI protected.