

Swimming Pool Checklist

Please make sure all of the following are included in the pool plans.

Governing Codes for Swimming Pools:

International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11;
International Residential Code (IRC) Electrical Chapters 34-42; IRC Mechanical Chapters 12-24;
IRC Plumbing Chapters 25-33; IRC Appendices F, G, I & N.

1. Include a note on plans that the pool will be built to all the above listed codes.
2. Provide a site plan showing all of the following:
 - a. pool with dimensions, and measurements to property lines
 - b. class of pool by code, and type of pool (example: fiberglass, block, liner, gunite, etc.)
 - c. show decking and walkways
 - d. whatever is added with the pool
 - e. show barriers, type of barrier, gate location showing swing away from pool and self-closing hinge with locking latch and location of latch
 - f. house and door locations, and if used as part of barrier, show alarms to the pool
 - g. show location of all equipment with barrier around equipment
 - h. show location of all disconnects and emergency shutoff switches
 - i. show all GFCI receptacles at equipment
 - j. show existing locations of all GFCI receptacles, show at least one within 6 to 20 feet of pool
 - k. show locations of all plumbing, electrical and gas lines with non-metallic raceways and tracer wire (no conduit allowed under or within 5 feet of pool other than to pool equipment)
 - l. show location of hose bibs for rinsing down decks
 - m. show slip resistant decks and stairs
 - n. comply with ISPSC 305 for barriers, provide information about the type of fence and gates (gates to swing away from pool)
 - o. show all switches and timed switches (if used)
3. Provide complete construction plans that show full details of how pool will be constructed, all materials being used for pool construction, including showing location of drains with suction entrapment avoidance to APS-7. Plans are required to be stamped by a state licensed Structural Engineer.
4. Provide complete plans showing all details of pool and what has been added with the pool. Show footprint of pool, and type of walkways around pool. Show all plumbing, electrical, grounding and bonding of all electrical boxes, steel, lights, rails, cabinets and equipment to each other. Show handrail, steps or ladders.
5. Provide manufacturer listing on all new equipment and show on plans with size of BTU's and how it will be fastened or supported.
6. Covers over heated pools shall be provided with a listed vapor-retardant cover. Provide listing.
7. Note that materials for pools, spas and apparatuses show construction of materials that are non-toxic to humans; that are impervious and enduring; that will withstand design stresses; that will provide a water tight structure with a smooth and easily cleanable surface.
8. If installing a diving board, show it on plans and provide the manufacturer specifications.
9. Show all emergency shut-off switches on site plan.
10. Show your return and suction fittings with pool sizing to ISPCS 314.
11. Show skimmer or note with sizing to pool to ISPSC 315.
12. Show hand holds around pool if pool exceeds 42 inches to ISPSC 323.

13. Show handrails to ISPSC 323.2.
14. Show required artificial lighting to ISPSC 321.
15. Show water supply to ISPSC 318.
16. Show circulation system to ISPSC 311.
17. Any 15-20 amp receptacle 6 to 20 feet from water's edge must be GFCI (show on plans to IRC E4203.2).
18. Any switching device cannot be within 5 feet of water's edge (show on plans to IRC E4203.2).
19. Show on plans all your equipotential bonding for any metal box, lights, rebar, copper conductor 18" to 20" from water's edge, electrical cabinets or boxes, equipment used for pool, railings, etc. with a #8 copper conductor or larger and bond to each other to IRC E4204. Also, a minimum of four uniformly spaced connections around pool.
20. Note on plans all equipment to be grounded to IRC E4205.1:
 - a. through wall lighting,
 - b. under water luminaires,
 - c. electrical equipment within five feet of pool,
 - d. all electrical equipment associated with the recirculating system,
 - e. junction boxes,
 - f. transformer and power supply enclosures,
 - g. ground fault circuit interrupters
 - h. panel boards
21. Show that listed non-metallic conduits will be used for a raceway sized for conductors that will be listed for wet and underground locations to IRC E4205.3.
22. Note: servicing wet-niche luminaires shall be removable. Cord shall permit the luminaires to be placed on the deck, the cord and enclosure shall be provided with a strain relief to IRC E4206.5.1 and E4206.9.5.
23. Note on plans that the turnover rate will not be less than every 12 hours per ISPSC 810.
24. Make sure electrical equipment is sized for the new pool. If pool heater is electrical, provide a one-line diagram or total electrical load calculations including all new equipment.
25. Make sure gas lines are sized for all new equipment, provide gas diagram showing all gas appliances, meter size, line size and BTUs. For new line, show 18 gauge yellow tracer wire, listed solid bedding 12 inches or more into the earth.
26. The slope of the pool floor from the point of the first slope change to the deep area shall not exceed 33 percent per ISPSC 308.
27. Return inlets shall be provided for every 300 square feet of pool surface area per ISPSC 314.4.
28. Note that water velocity in return lines shall not exceed 8 feet per second per ISPSC 311.3.
29. Show all suction entrapment avoidance in accordance with ASPSP7 (ISPSC 310).
30. Any diving board has to be per size of pool and depth and diving board per manufacturer listing set up for pool to its size as per ISPSC.
31. Show step measurements – rise shall not be over 12" (ISPSC 809.7).
32. Where a slope break occurs, a rope and float assembly is required 1 to 2 feet toward the shallower end across the width of the pool (ISPSC 811.1). Show location on plans.

*A soils report from a State licensed geotechnical engineer is required to be submitted after dig.