

## The Pool Safety Solutions Ultimate Checklist

PoolSS wants to remind every pool owner to check, fix and maintain their home pool and surrounds to eliminate child drowning. Drowning deaths are preventable where home pool fencing and effective supervision can reduce tragic drowning deaths to zero.



### Swimming Pool Gate

- Must open outward from pool
- Latch must be more than 1500mm from the ground
- Must be self closing and self latching from any position
- Must latch shut on the first swing

Does gate swing back to the closed position after being opened?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Replace Hinges
Does gate latch and stay closed after it returns to the closed position?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Replace latch
Is gate secure so that it can't be pulled open once latched?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Fix or replace latch
Is gate secure and doesn't open if a child bounces on the bottom rail of the gate?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Fix or replace latch
Are you aware of the dangers of propping the gate open?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Never prop the gate open
Is the gap between the gate and the fence less than 100mm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Reduce the gap
Is the gap between the glass gate and the latch less than 10mm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Close or fill glass so gap is less than 10 mm
Are the hinges spaced at least 900mm apart, measuring from the top of the bottom hinge to the top of the top hinge?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Reposition hinges or install safety cap to eliminate foothold.

### Swimming Pool Fence

- Secure and in good working order
- No more than 100mm from the ground
- Should be at least 1.2m high
- No vertical gaps more than 100mm apart

Are all of the fence panels in place?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Replace fence panels
Are all of the fence panels securely attached?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Secure panels
Have you checked the fence for gaps or holes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Check and fix fence
Is the distance between the bottom rail and the ground less than 100mm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Reduce the gap
Have you checked for rusted, loose or missing screws?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Check and replace

### Around the Swimming Pool Fence

- Pool aids and toys should be stored securely and out of view
- Objects that could be used to climb the fence should be removed from the area

Have climbable objects near internal/boundary barriers been removed from different NCZ Non Climbable Zones or clear spans around the pool? ie projections/ indentations more than 10mm, chairs, ladders, trees, pot plants, BBQ's etc can aid climbing into the pool area?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Move objects away from barrier
Are toys always removed from the pool and stored securely after use?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Store toys securely
Have trees or shrubs near the fence been trimmed so that children can't use them to climb the fence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Trim trees and shrubs
Are there any steps, objects, or structures within 500mm of the barrier that reduce the height of the barrier to less than 1200mm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - Remove objects or extend barrier height 500mm

## Pump, Grates and Suction

### Ensure that no fitting is broken or missing

Are all of the pool's suction fittings and plumbing grates/covers securely in place and in good condition?  Yes  No - Secure loose fittings and replace broken or missing fittings

Do all pool users (including supervising adults) know where and how to switch off the pool/spa pump system in case of an emergency?  Yes  No - Show all people where to switch off the pump prior to using the pool

When using the pool do all people with long hair have it tied back securely in a bun or plait or are they wearing a swimming cap?  Yes  No - Long hair should be tied back or under a cap

## Emergency Preparation

• Up to date CPR and First Aid Skills - Call Royal Life Saving today to book a course on 1300 737 763

• Resuscitation Sign prominent in pool area

Do you or your family members have up to date Resuscitation and First Aid skills?  Yes  No - Enrol in a CPR or First Aid course

Does your house have a First Aid Kit handy?  Yes  No - Buy a First Aid Kit

Is there a current Resuscitation Sign displayed prominently in the pool area?  Yes  No - Buy and install a Resuscitation Sign

## Chemicals

### Should be stored securely, out of view and out of children's reach

Are pool chemicals stored securely, out of view and out of reach of children?  Yes  No - Always store chemicals out of reach of children

Do you use protective equipment (gloves, goggles) when handling pool chemicals?  Yes  No - Purchase and use appropriate protective equipment

Do you, when using pool chemicals, add the chemical to water?  Yes  No - Always add chemicals to water NOT water into chemicals

Do you use clean or original chemical containers when mixing chemicals to avoid vapours from incompatible chemicals?  Yes  No - Always use clean or original chemical containers to mix chemicals

Do you read the Safety Directions and Directions For Use label on the pool chemicals before use?  Yes  No - Always read the instructions before using

## Electricity

• Electricity and water do not mix.

• A Residual Current Device (RCD) or Residual Current Circuit Breaker (RCCB) can save lives

Do you have a RCD or RCCB on power supply?  Yes  No - Have a RCD or RCCB installed

## Appropriate Supervision

### Adult supervision in combination with pool fencing is the most effective method of preventing your child from drowning

When using the pool are you always within arm's reach of any child under 5 years of age?  Yes  No - Always supervise your child around water

Are you aware of the dangers of leaving older children to supervise younger children when they are using the pool?  Yes  No - An adult should always be supervising children

During parties is an adult designated 'child supervisor' duties around the pool?  Yes  No - An adult should always be supervising children

Visit [poolsafety.com.au](http://poolsafety.com.au)  
and learn more about how to prevent  
children from drowning.

