

315 ENCLOSURE

315.1 Public Swimming Pools

All public swimming pools shall be completely enclosed by a fence at least 4 ft in height or a screen enclosure. Openings in the fence shall not permit the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere. The fence or screen enclosure shall be equipped with self-closing and self-latching gates.

315.2 Residential Swimming Pools

Residential swimming pools shall comply with 315.2.1 through 315.2.3.

EXCEPTION: A portable spa with a safety cover complying with ASTM E5 13-89.

315.2.1 Outdoor Swimming Pools. Outdoor swimming pools shall be provided with a barrier complying with 315.2.1.1 through 315.2.1.10.

315.2.1.1 The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above grade the barrier may be at ground level or mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4 inches.

315.2.1.2 Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.

315.2.1.3 Solid barriers which do not have openings shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.

315.2.1.4 Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width.

315.2.1.5 Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width.

315.2.1.6 Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 1 1/4 inch square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to no more than 1 3/4 inches.

315.2.1.7 Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be no more than 1 3/4 inches.

315.2.1.8 Access gates shall comply with the requirements of 315.2.1.1 through 314.2.1.7 and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outwards away from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.

315.2.1.9 Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, all doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen are opened. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds immediately after the door is opened and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with a manual means to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last no more than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door. Other means of protection which are approved by the administrative authority shall be acceptable provided the degree of protection is not less than the protection afforded by the alarm described.

315.2.1.10 Where an aboveground 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 the ladder or steps either shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of 315.2.1.1 through 315.2.1.9. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked, or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere.

315.2.2 Indoor Swimming Pools. All walls surrounding indoor swimming pools shall comply with 315.2.1.9.

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

316 LADDERS AND STEPS

All pools whether public or private shall be provided with a ladder or steps or both in the deep and shallow ends. An end that is not more than 24 inches deep need not have ladders or steps.

317 FINAL INSPECTION

All swimming pool installations must be completed. The pool shall be completely filled with water and in operation before final inspection.