

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POOL BARRIER INFORMATION.

All swimming pools or spa pools must have a continuous safety barrier maintained by the pool owner that restricts access by young children to the pool.

If you are a property owner and are selling a property with a swimming pool or spa pool built before 1 July 1993 you must make sure that the safety barrier meets today's standard for new pools. Fencing must be constructed in such a way to make sure that:

- The fence is an effective barrier to young children.
- It is permanent.
- Young children can't crawl under or climb it by using foot or hand holds.
- It is at least 1.2 metres high.
- Any boundary fences used as part of the child-safety barrier are at least 1.8 metres high on the side that faces the pool, with a 900 millimetre non-climbable zone at the top inside of the fence, a boundary barrier may be climbable on the neighbour's side.

Gates to the pool area:

- Swing outward from the pool area.
- Be self-closing from any position.
- Be fitted with a latching device, out of reach of small children, at least 1.5 metres above ground level.

Development approval for a new pool:

Development approval is required for a new swimming pool, spa pool and safety fencing. Your local council will check:

- The details and location of safety barriers
- The safety of the pump
- The adequacy of structural support for the swimming pool or spa pool.

Fencing must be installed before a new pool is filled with water.

Maintenance:

As a swimming pool or spa pool owner you must make sure that all required pool safety features are maintained in working order at all times. Gates should never be propped open and it is very important that a gate closes and latches every time it is opened.

New pools:

Since 1 April 2014, new swimming and spa pools must be inspected by the council within 2 months of the completion of the permanent approved child-safety barriers.

Above-ground or inflatable pools and 'portable' spa pools

If the swimming pool or spa pool has a filtration system you will need to:

- Get approval from your local council
- Ensure safety features are in place.

The sides of an above-ground pool can be a suitable safety barrier if:

- They are non-climbable and are at least 1.2 metres high
- A barrier is placed around the ladder (even if it is removable)
- A barrier is placed around anything else that can be climbed on.