

Pool Barrier Checklist

The CDC has determined that in addition to vigilant supervision, pool barriers are the best way to prevent unsupervised access to water. In fact, pool barriers reduce incidents of drownings by fifty percent. Pool owners should routinely check that their pool fences and gates, including latches and hinges, are in good working order. Minor adjustments and repairs are often needed to ensure that all components are in line to ensure self-closing and self-latching gates. This simple routine done regularly could help save the life of a child.

POOL GATE CHECK LIST

- Gate should open outwards, away from the pool.
- Height of latch release mechanism is 54" from the bottom gate (check local codes)
- Gate must be self-closing and self-latching.
- Hinges should be rust-free and bind-free.
- Latch must be adjustable horizontally and vertically to accommodate gate movement.
- Gate will latch in the lock or unlocked position.
- Latch cannot be disengaged using implements such as garden or pool tools.
- Gate latch cannot be shaken or jolted open.
- Gate will shut and latch securely from any open angle or force.
- Gate complies with all applicable standards, codes and legislation for pool safety.

POOL FENCE SAFETY CHECK LIST

- Never prop open a gate with objects such as furniture, rocks or toys.
- If you employ pool maintenance people or lawn maintenance companies, remind them to never prop your gates open.
- Fence panels should be secure and in good working order.
- Check for missing, loose or rusted fence screws.
- Gap under the fence should be less than 4".
- Objects that a child could use to climb on to scale a fence or gate should be removed. Common objects include tables and chairs.