

# Home swimming pool safety

## Checklist – large properties or waterfront properties

This checklist applies to all pools on large properties (area greater than two hectares) and all pools on waterfront properties regardless of when they were installed.

A waterfront property is defined as having frontage to any large body of water, such as a permanently flowing creek, a river, a canal, a pond, a lake, a reservoir, an estuary, the sea or any other body of water whether natural or artificial. If you are unsure if your property is a waterfront property, contact your local council.

### Checklist

Does each wall that is used as a barrier between a pool and adjacent properties have vertical sides, have a height of at least 1.2m and have no footholds wider than 10mm within 1.1m of the top of the wall?

Is there an appropriate resuscitation sign displayed in the immediate vicinity of the pool area?

**DOORS** – Do all doors that could allow a child to go from your house directly to the pool:

Have locking mechanisms (eg. lock, latch, chain) which are located at least 1.5m above the finished floor level.

When locked, have no opening greater than 10.5cm and below 1.5m above the floor through which a small child could pass.

Not contain any footholds on the door or door frame wider than 10mm between the release mechanism for the door and any point 10cm above finished floor level.

**WINDOWS** – Do all windows that could allow a child to go from your house directly to the pool:

Have the bottom of the lowest opening panel of the window at least 1.2m above the finished floor level when closed.

Have no footholds wider than 10mm between the bottom of the lowest opening panel of the window and any point within 1.1m below the bottom of that panel.

**Note:** the above requirements for windows do not apply if there are no gaps greater than 10.5cm in the window, grill or flyscreen when fixed by a keyed locking device.

Irrespective of minimum requirements in the legislation for pools that fall into these categories, in the interest of water safety, pool owners are encouraged to provide an approved Child Resistant Barrier to separate the pool from other areas of the property where possible.

For more information on swimming pool safety, contact your local council. For water safety information, visit the SafeWaters website.

### Tick for yes

### Important note

This checklist is to be used as a guide only.

For further advice on ensuring that your pool is fully compliant with the legislation you should contact your local council.

Your local council can also inspect your pool and issue a compliance certificate if your pool is compliant with the legislation. Councils may charge a fee for this.

Pool owners are reminded that **there is no substitute for constant adult supervision of children in and around swimming pools** to prevent drownings and other accidents.