



Swimming Pool & Hot Tub Self-Inspection Checklist

Whether at a public or private backyard swimming pool, pools are dangerous and even deadly. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) there are an average of nine fatalities daily in the United States due to drowning. Approximately 20% of those are under the age of 14. This type of tragedy is the second most cause of unintentional injury-related fatalities in that same age group and the primary reason for those under four. Almost 20% occur in public facilities when there is a licensed lifeguard on duty.

Whether due to a lack of supervision or inadequate safety measures pool accidents and fatalities can be greatly reduced. When appropriate awareness and prevention techniques are implemented the chance of tragedies can be reduced. The following is a Swimming Pool and Hot Tub Self-Inspection Checklist that will help reduce tragedies from unattended pools and aid in lifesaving efforts.

Pool Fencing and Decking

	Yes	No
Is the pool/spa enclosed with a fence at least 4-foot high?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are gates and doors self-closing and self latching, with devices not less than 4 feet above grade?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are pool depth markings clearly visible on pool deck?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is decking in good repair and free of tripping hazards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Safety Signs and Life Saving Equipment

Are signs posted in a conspicuous place and maintained in a legible manner? Suggested sign language; When lifeguard isn't present swim at your own risk, no glass containers or alcoholic drinks in pool area, no running or horse-playing, no pets, no diving, children under 14 years old require supervision, and pool hours ____ to ____.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is life ring with attached rope capable of spanning the width of the pool?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a body hook permanently attached to a pole (at least 12 feet in length)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are emergency telephone numbers posted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Anti-Entrapment Devices and Systems

Are main drains and suction outlets equipped with approved covers to meet (ANSI/APSO-16 standards)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all suction drain covers properly secured and removable only with tools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Hot Tub

	Yes	No
Are the pH and disinfectant levels tested at least twice a day (hourly when in heavy use)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is water temperature kept below 104 degrees at all times?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the water drained and replaced or portions of the water replaced on a weekly to monthly basis, depending on usage and water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are children less than five years old excluded from using the hot tub?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the filtration and recirculation systems being maintained to manufacturer recommendations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there disinfection guidelines for fecal accidents and body fluid spills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Water Quality

Is the water quality checked regularly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the main drain clearly visible from the pool's edge?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the pH of the water maintained between 7.2 and 8.0?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is free chlorine residual maintained at or above 1.0 ppm or 1.5 ppm if cyanuric acid is used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you answered No to any of these items in the checklist they should be corrected immediately.

Reference: Engineering & Safety Service, Public Swimming Pools, LB-30-63, July 26, 2012

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