



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION**

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SWIMMING POOL PLAN CHECK GUIDELINES

The California Health & Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations, Titles 22 and 24 require any person proposing to construct, remodel or alter a public swimming pool or spa, auxiliary structure, or equipment, submit plans and specifications to the local enforcement agency. In this case, the plans must be submitted to the Consumer Protection Division of the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health. These plans must be approved before any construction begins. Changes to the plans after approval has been granted must be submitted to this division for review.

The following information should make this task easier. Please read them carefully and follow the sections that apply. These guidelines are not all inclusive. Refer to state law for any additional requirements and details. Pre-gunite, pre-plaster, pre-deck, and final opening inspections are required before the pool is opened for use and a permit issued.

The following information is required. Pool plans must be drawn to scale (minimum ¼ inch per foot) in a professional manner and shall include the following:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of owner, General Contractor and Architect.
2. Address of pool to be constructed.
3. Name, address and telephone number of pool company or pool builder.
4. A scaled plot plan showing the pool location in relationship to all buildings on the property, including the pool's exact location to existing streets. A smaller scale is acceptable on the plot plan only.
5. All calculations must be shown on an attached sheet provided or on the plan itself.
6. Detailed decking, fencing, and gate plans are required before the plans are approved. ("By others" and "per code" is not acceptable.)
7. Floor plan of the equipment room or area (drawn to scale).
8. Floor plan (when necessary) of restroom facilities to be used by the bathers.
9. A complete plumbing plan showing all irrigation (both reclaimed and potable) water piping and separate potable water piping.

RESTROOM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS (When necessary)

1. Separate restrooms for both men and women with access for the handicapped (enforced by the local Building Department).
2. Provision for privacy.
3. Smooth, moisture resistant wall finishes throughout.
4. Floor must be nonskid, slip resistant, and extend upward onto the wall at least 5 inches with an integrally coved base and shall slope to floor drains at a ¼ inch per foot.
5. Shower and lavatories shall be provided with hot and cold water (110⁰ Fahrenheit maximum temperature).

6. Hand lavatory equipped with single-service soap and towel dispensers and hot and cold water.
7. Drinking fountain in the pool area, if required.
8. Refer to the code for the number of restroom fixtures required.
9. Carpeting is not allowed in either the toilet or shower rooms.

The following information is required on each plan:

- A. **PROFILE VIEW** (longitudinal section) drawn $\frac{1}{4}$ inch per foot through the center line of the pool and must indicate the following data:
 1. Overall length dimension.
 2. Distance from shallow end wall to the point of break in bottom slope from shallow to deep portions.
 3. Distance from break in bottom slope to the main drain (maximum depth).
 4. Distance from the main drain (maximum depth) to the deep end wall.
 5. Depth at the shallow end wall (maximum depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the base of the steps).
 6. Depth at the break in bottom slope, if applicable.
 7. A depth marking line across the bottom of the pool consisting of a contrasting color tile — at least 4 inches wide and which is slip-resistant — at the $4\frac{1}{2}$ foot depth for pools greater than 5 feet deep.
 8. Depth at main drain, if applicable.
 9. Location of safety line anchors.
 10. Height of step risers and tread widths.
 11. Design and location of handrail(s).
 12. Color of plaster (must be white).

- B. **TOP VIEW** must indicate the following data:
 1. Diving board (if any) location and distance from the board center to the sidewalls and any other diving board.
 2. Show location, size and distance of all pool plumbing including, skimmers, suction lines, main drains, fill lines and return lines.
 3. Location of the ladder and grab rails, steps and safety hand rails.
 4. Pool light location and wattage (when required).
 5. Scaled drawing of pool equipment room ($\frac{1}{2}$ inch per foot). Indicate 90 and 45 degree elbow piping.
 6. The fill line must be permanently installed and provided with an approved backflow prevention device.
 7. Location of equipment room or area, piping line size and required equipment location.

- C. **EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS** (size for six-hour turnover rate)
 1. Filter type, make, model number and square footage. (Provide cut sheets for all equipment).
 2. Pump make, model number and horsepower. Include copy of pump performance curve from manufacturer.
 3. Skimmer make and model with equalizer line (one skimmer for each 500 square feet of pool water surface area or fractional part thereof).
 4. Chlorinator, or equivalent disinfectant feeder, make and model number.
 5. Flow indicator make, model number, and location on piping.

6. Influent and effluent pressure gauges.
7. Backwash line to sanitary sewer with an air-gap and sight glass as required. Include the size and slope of the sewer line and sump size.
8. Color of plaster (must be white).
9. Approved type backflow prevention device on the fresh water fill line at the supply valve.
10. The equipment room floors must be concrete and sloped to approved drainage.
11. All equipment shall be easily accessible for inspection and maintenance.

D. SUPPORTING DATA (indicate or list the following data)

1. The pool capacity in total gallons.
2. Square footage of pool water surface area.
3. Dimensions of pool, such as length, width and depth.
4. Pipe size of return lines and suction lines; type of piping to be used (copper, PVC, etc.)
5. Four feet of paved and unobstructed non-skid decking completely around all pools sloped away from the pool at ¼ inch per foot to drains or other acceptable means of disposal, including special use pools and wading pools. The distance between pools or between a pool and a spa must be at least 6 feet.
6. Three inch high depth markers on both sides of the pool at the following locations; break, minimum and maximum depths, and ends. If the pool is over 20 feet wide, the pool must have corresponding slip resistant depth markers in the pool deck around the perimeter not more than 25 feet apart.
7. Location of hose bibs from the potable drinking water system in the pool area for the washing down of the deck area. (Approved backflow prevention device is required.) No more than 75 feet of hose will be allowed on each hose bib.
8. Dual main drains are required for the recirculation system. The dual grates must be a screw down type and separated by at least 2 feet.
9. Two return inlets for the first 10,000 gallons and one inlet for each additional 10,000 gallons or fractional part thereof. Locate all return inlet a minimum of 18 inches below the water line.

E. SAFETY EQUIPMENT

1. Sign indicating "WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY" (minimum 4 inch letters). "Children under the age of 14 should not use pool without an adult in attendance."
2. Artificial respiration demonstration sign.
3. Emergency telephone numbers sign, including "911".
4. "NO DIVING ALLOWED" sign (minimum 4 inch letters) (if pool maximum depth is 6 feet or under).
5. First aid kit (if required).
6. "NO USE OF POOL ALLOWED AFTER DARK" sign (minimum 4-inch letters) if pool is not supplied with lighting.
7. Adequate pool and deck lighting required if used after dark.
8. Occupancy load sign (one bather per 20 square feet of pool water surface area) (minimum 4 inch letters).
9. Life-ring (minimum 17-inch exterior diameter) with a minimum 3/16" attached line long enough to span the maximum width of the pool.
10. A body hook on a twelve-foot pole.

F. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Step treads must be a minimum of twelve (12) inches wide. Top curved steps must be at least eighteen (18) inches wide. Step risers must not exceed twelve (12) inches in height and must be uniform.
2. A minimum 5-foot high fence must enclose all pools. Fence openings cannot exceed 4 inches. Openings between the bottom of the fence and the finished grade, walk or deck cannot exceed 2 inches. Gates must be self-closing and self-latching with the latch at least 3½ feet above the walk or deck. (More stringent building department fence requirement may be acceptable.)
3. Submit a section view of the coping or cantilever decking drawn to actual scale (1 inch per foot). The overhang shall not exceed 2 inches nor less than 1 inch and shall not exceed 2½ inches in thickness.
4. Coping surface shall be rough and slip resistant.
5. An approved test kit for measuring pH, free and total chlorine, and cyanuric acid (when used) shall be provided.
6. Solar heating systems shall not be interconnected with the recirculation system.

G. GAS CHLORINE ROOM

1. The room shall not be located below ground level.
2. The entry door shall open to the exterior of the building and shall not open directly towards the pool or pool deck.
3. There shall be some kind of mechanical exhaust at or near the floor level which produces at least 60 air changes per hour and is vented to the outside air 10 feet above ground and in an approved manner.
4. There shall be a fresh air intake within 6 inches of the ceiling.
5. A spray bottle of commercial strength ammonia for detecting leaks.
6. The location of both light and exhaust fan switches outside of this room.
7. A gas chlorine warning sign which states "Danger: Gaseous oxidizer-chlorine" (minimum 4 inch high letters).
8. The location of an approved gas mask (Mine Safety and Health Administration or NIOSH) or a self-contained breathing apparatus outside the room where the chlorinator is maintained.
9. An emergency evacuation procedure and map.

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