



**COUNTY OF SONOMA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION**

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POOL PLAN CHECK GUIDELINES

Excerpts from the *California Health & Safety Code*, *California Code of Regulations (Title 22 and Title 24)*, *California Building Code*, and *California Electrical Code* require any person proposing to construct, remodel or alter a public swimming pool or auxiliary structure or equipment, to submit plans and specifications to the Health Department. Plans must be approved before any construction begins. Once plans have been approved, any changes must be submitted to this division for review.

Please read this carefully and complete all sections that apply. Pre-gunite, pre-plaster and final opening inspections are required before opening for use or issuance of a public pool permit.

The following information is required:

Submit three (3) sets of plans and one (1) set of pool equipment specification sheets. Pool plans shall be drawn to scale (minimum 1/4 inch = 1 foot) in a professional manner and include the following:

1. Name, address and telephone number of owner, general contractor, architect, and pool company or pool builder.
2. Address of pool to be constructed.
3. Scaled plot plan showing pool location in relationship to all buildings on property. Smaller scale acceptable on plot plan only.
4. All calculations must be shown on the "Pool/Spa Data Sheet," or on the plan.
5. Detailed decking, fencing, gate, deck lighting, and ancillary facility plans are required before plan will be accepted for approval. ("By others" and "per code" are not acceptable.)
6. Floor plan of equipment room or area (drawn to scale).
7. Floor plan (when applicable) of restroom facilities to be used by bathers.
8. Location of drinking fountain in the pool area (when applicable).

Restroom Facility Requirements (When Applicable)

1. Separate restrooms for both men and women. (Check with local building department regarding handicap requirements).
2. Provisions for privacy.
3. Smooth, moisture resistant wall finishes throughout.
4. Floor drains are required in each restroom.
5. Floor must be non-skid, slip resistant, and extend upward on to wall at least 5" with an integrally coved base and shall slope to floor drains (1/4" per foot).
6. Shower and lavatories shall be provided with hot and cold water (110° F maximum temperature).

7. Hand lavatory with single-service soap and towel dispensers, hot and cold water.
8. Carpet is not allowed in toilet or shower rooms.

Profile View - Longitudinal section through the centerline of the pool must indicate the following data:

1. Overall length dimension.
2. Distance from shallow end wall to point of break in bottom slope from shallow to deep portions.
3. Distance from break in bottom slope to main drain (maximum depth).
4. Distance from main drain (maximum depth) to deep end wall.
5. Depth at shallow end wall (maximum depth of 3½ feet at base of steps).
6. Depth at break in bottom slope, if applicable.
7. Depth at main drain.
8. Location of safety line anchors (when applicable).
9. Height of step risers and tread widths.
10. Design and location of handrail(s). Include handrail profile view. (Upper rail must be at least 28 inches above deck coping and steps.)
11. Color of plaster (must be white).
12. Location of 4-inch wide tile line of contrasting color extending across the bottom of the pool from side to side at the 4.5-foot depth when the total depth of the pool exceeds 5 feet.

Top View - Shall indicate the following data:

1. Diving board (if any) location and distance from board center to sidewalls and any other diving board.
2. Show location, size and distance of all pool plumbing including skimmers with equalizer line(s), suction lines, main drains, fill-lines and return lines.
3. Location of ladder and grab rails, steps and safety hand rails. Ladders are required on both sides of the pool if the pool width exceeds 30 feet.
4. Pool light location and wattage, when required, with ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection.
5. Scaled drawing of pool equipment room (1/2 inch = 1 foot). Indicate 90° and 45° elbow piping.
6. 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.
8. Gate or ball valves for skimmer line(s) and main drain line(s) at recirculation system pump manifold.

Equipment Specifications (sized for six-hour turnover rate)

1. Filter type, make, model number and square footage.
2. Pump make, model number and horsepower. Include copy of pump performance curve from manufacturer.
3. Skimmer make and model number with equalizer line(s) (one 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. Flowmeter make, model number, and location on piping.
6. Influent and effluent pressure gauges.
7. Specify method of backwash discharge from filter. If to sanitary sewer, include size and slope of sewer line and sump size (minimum 18" x 18" x 18").
8. Approved backflow prevention device on fresh water fill line at supply valve.
9. Equipment room floors must be concrete and sloped to drainage.
10. All equipment shall be easily accessible for service and inspection.
11. Provide a hose bib equipped with a backflow prevention device in the equipment room.

Supporting Data (Indicate or list the following data)

1. Pool capacity in total gallons.
2. Square footage of pool water surface area.
3. Dimensions of pool: length, width and depth.
4. Pipe size of return lines and suction lines, also 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 deck drains or other approved drainage (i.e., landscaped planter areas). The distance between any pool and spa must be at least six feet.
6. Three-inch minimum depth markers on both sides at break in slope, minimum and maximum depths, and ends. If the pool is over 20 feet wide, the pool must have corresponding slip-resistant depth markers in pool deck around perimeter, not more than 25 feet apart. Depth markers must have "ft" printed on them.
7. Location of hose bib in the pool area for washing of deck area (approved backflow prevention device required).
8. Main drain grates must be anti-vortex type and screw-down type.
9. Two return inlets for the first 10,000 gallons and one for each additional 10,000 gallons, or fractional part thereof. Locate return inlets at least 18 inches below the water line.

Safety Equipment

1. Sign stating, "WARNING - NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY" (minimum 4-inch letters) accompanied with the wording, "Children under the age of 14 should not use the pool without an adult in attendance."
2. Artificial respiration demonstration sign.
3. Emergency telephone numbers sign (9-1-1).
4. Sign stating, "NO DIVING ALLOWED" (minimum 4-inch letters), if maximum depth of pool is under 6 feet.
5. DPD or approved test kit for pH, free chlorine, and cyanuric acid (when used).
6. Body hook on a 12-foot pole.
7. Life-ring (minimum 17-inch exterior diameter) with a 3/16" attached line long enough to span maximum width of pool.
8. Occupancy load sign (minimum 4-inch letters). Pool occupancy is based on 1 bather per 20 square feet of pool water surface area.

9. Adequate pool and deck lighting is required, if pool is used after dark. If the pool is not equipped with lighting, a sign stating, "NO USE OF POOL ALLOWED AFTER DARK" shall be posted (minimum 4-inch letters)

Additional Requirements

1. Step treads must be a minimum of twelve inches wide. Top curved steps must be at least 18 inches wide. Step risers must not exceed 12 inches in height and must be uniform.
2. A minimum 5-foot high fence must enclose all public pools/spas. Fence openings cannot exceed 4 inches and the bottom of the fence must be no greater than 2 inches above finished grade. Gates must be self-closing and self-latching with the latch at least 3 ½ feet above the walkway or deck (more stringent building department fence requirements will be acceptable).
3. Submit section view of coping or cantilever decking drawn to actual scale (1inch = 1 inch). Overhang shall not exceed 2 inches, nor be less than 1 inch, and shall not exceed 2 ½ inches in thickness.
4. Coping surface shall be slip-resistant.

Note: Refer to Pool/Spa Data Sheet