



# City of Palm Springs

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With the adoption of the 2016 California Building Codes there have been some minor changes with regard to private swimming pools. Please take note.

## **SWIMMING POOL SAFETY STANDARDS**

Section AV100.3 of the 2016 California Residential Building Code addresses the pool safety standards for pools, spas and hot tubs installed for single family residences.

For the purpose of this code, the following definitions are applicable:

**Swimming Pool:** Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches deep.

**Enclosure:** A fence, wall, or other barrier that isolates a swimming pool from access to the home.

### **Enclosure Requirements:**

An outdoor swimming pool, including hot tubs or spas shall be surrounded by a barrier which shall comply with the following:

1. Top of the barrier shall be at least **60** inches above grade measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool.
  - a. Openings in the barrier shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere.
  - b. Openings between the finish grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be a maximum of 2 inches.
  - c. Barriers shall be installed so as not have any features which aid in climbing.
2. Access gates shall be a minimum of 60 inches above grade and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates must open outward from the pool. Gates shall meet the same provisions as listed for barriers.
3. Outside surfaces shall be free of anything that can make the barrier climbable.
4. If using the wall of the house as an enclosure, exit alarms must be placed on all doors that provide direct access to the pool.

### **Suction Outlets:**

1. Pools and spas must have at least two circulation outlets, which are hydraulically balanced and separated by three feet, or
2. Utilization of skimmers, perimeter overflow systems, or other pre-approved devices in lieu of traditional suction devices.
3. The use of other outlet devices which may meet ANSI/APSP-7 standards but do not have a minimum of three feet between outlets is prohibited.