



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Does the Residential swimming pool safety regulation apply to all types of pools?

A. The regulation applies to outdoor in-ground pools, semi-in-ground pools, above ground pools, temporary above ground pools, inflatable pools and hot tubs (spas) over 2000 litres. The water is 60 cm deep or more.

Q. Can a hedge replace the need for a fence?

A. No, a hedge or shrubs are not considered a fence.

Q. Is a fence required around a hot tub?

A. The Residential swimming pool safety regulation does not apply to hot tubs with a capacity of 2000 litres or less. However, if your hot tub has a capacity of over 2000 litres, it is considered as an above ground pool in the regulation. For this kind of hot tub, a cover with a locking mechanism can replace the obligation to fence in a hot tub.

Q. My pool was installed before 2010. Does this regulation apply to me?

A. Yes, your installation must be compliant by September 30, 2025.

Q. What kind of fencing is acceptable around a pool?

A. A fence must be at least 1.2 m high (around 4 ft). It should not be possible to insert a 10 cm (just under 4 in.) spherical object through the fence. The space between the bottom of the fence and the ground, and the spaces within the fence should be 10 cm or less. On the outside of the fence, avoid anything that a child could climb, such as crossbars.



Q. What are the requirements for chain link fencing?

A. Chain link fencing must have slats when the mesh is over 30 mm wide.



Mesh that is less than 30 mm.



Chain link fencing with slats.

Q. What is considered an adequate closing mechanism for a fence door?

A. A fence door must have a passive safety mechanism allowing it to close and lock automatically. A latch can be installed on:

- the inside of the fence door, in the upper part of the door, or
- the outside of the fence door, at least 1.5 m high.



Example of a latch installed on the inside of the fence. Example of a latch installed on the outside of the fence.

Q. Is it possible to have a double door in a fence?

A. Yes, it's possible to have a double door if one of the doors is kept shut with a lockable cane bolt.



Q. Is a fence required around a temporary above ground pool?

A. A fence is required for a temporary above ground pool that is less than 1.4 m high.

Sources:

Règlement sur la sécurité des piscines résidentielles – Guide d’application
https://cdn-contenu.quebec.ca/cdn-contenu/adm/min/affaires-municipales/publications/ministere/securite_piscines_residentielles/GUI_InspecteurPiscineResidentielle.pdf

Règlement sur le zonage de la municipalité de Bolton-Ouest
<https://bolton-ouest.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Reglement-264-2008-Zonage-Version-juin-2021.pdf>