

# Swimming Pool Barrier Requirements for Existing and Proposed Private Swimming Pools

A pool barrier is to be provided around a private swimming pool (including a spa) in accordance with Part 8 of the Building Regulations 2011 - refer **Building Regulations 2011 - Building Commission**. The Regulations specify different requirements for existing and proposed new private swimming pools and is dependent on when the application for the pool was submitted to the Local Government. The information below is a general guide as to what the fencing requirements are for existing and proposed new pools.

## Private Swimming Pool

Means a place or premises provided for the purpose of swimming, wading or any like activities which the general public are not entitled to use and in which there is water that is more than 300mm deep.

### Pre November 2001

Pools installed before November 2001 have to be bound by fencing and gates complying with (Australian Standard) AS1926.1. Any doors and windows in any building that open directly into the pool area are to comply with AS1926.1. This means that, as a minimum, self-closing and self-latching doors and protective windows must be installed where they provide access to the pool area. The legislation also requires that gates have to open in a direction that is not towards the pool.

### Current requirements

For pools that were applied for and approved by the Local Government after 5 November 2011, the pool barrier must consist of walls, fences and gates that comply with AS1926.1. A door from a dwelling or outbuilding is not permitted to open into the pool area.

### Boundary Fencing

A boundary fence of a property may be used as part of the pool enclosure as long as it satisfies the requirements of AS1926.1 **on either side of the fence.**

### General Fencing

Fences and gates forming part of the pool barrier are to comply with AS 1926.1.

### To obtain Local Government Approval for your Pool/Spa

If you wish to put a swimming pool or spa on your property you must first obtain a Building Permit.\*

\* **The only exception to this requirement is for properties zoned Rural. It is important to note that although the pool does not need a Building Permit, the barrier fence does.**