



QBCC LIC. PS15536295

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Home Pool and Spa Safety Checklist

A plain-language walkthrough of Queensland's pool barrier standard (AS 1926.1), so you can check your own pool before booking a professional inspection.

How to use this checklist

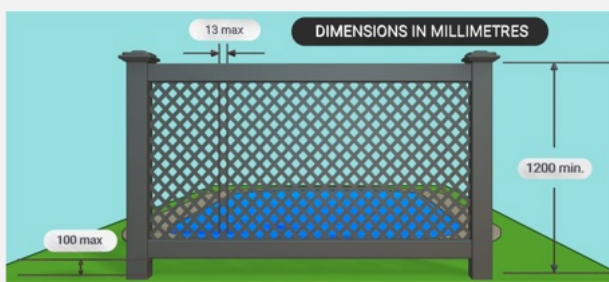
Walk around your pool area and tick each item as you confirm it. Every pool is different — not every section will apply to yours (for example, not every pool has a retaining wall or a balcony). This is a guide only and does not replace a professional inspection or a Pool Safety Certificate.

Since 2015, Queensland has used a single pool safety standard covering barrier height and strength, non-climbable zones, self-closing gates, and safe access from the home to the pool area. A pool safety certificate is required whenever a property with a pool is sold, leased, or listed under a community title scheme.

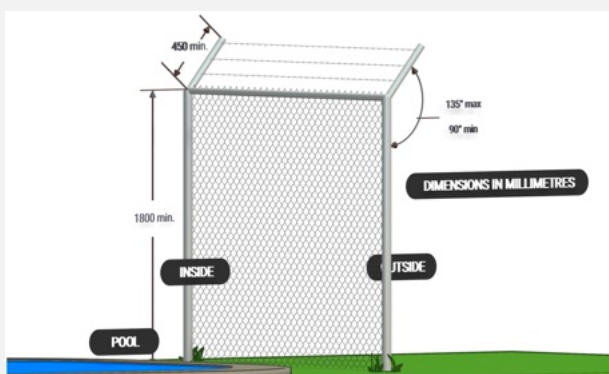
01 Barrier & Fencing



Barrier height & ground gap



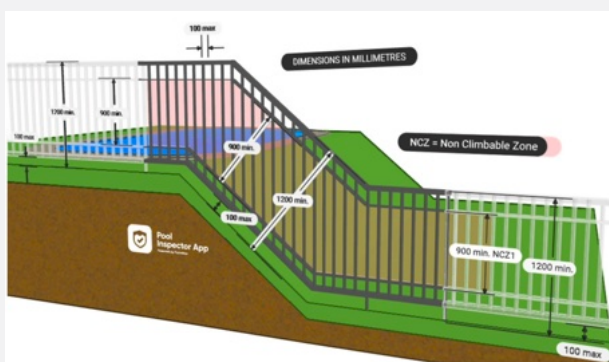
Mesh / lattice apertures



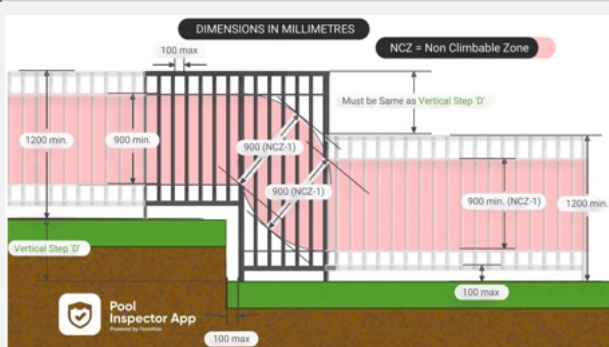
Chain-wire boundary fence

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 01 | Your pool has an approved barrier separating it from the house and any public area. | ☐ |
| 02 | The barrier is at least 1200mm high all the way around. | ☐ |
| 03 | The gap between the bottom of the barrier and the ground is no more than 100mm . | ☐ |
| 04 | Vertical bars or slats are spaced no more than 100mm apart. | ☐ |
| 05 | Mesh, lattice or perforated barriers have openings no larger than 13mm . | ☐ |
| 06 | The barrier is in good repair — no damage, rust, loose panels or gaps. | ☐ |
| 07 | If the house forms part of the barrier, its doors and windows have security screens or open less than 100mm.
Covered in more detail under Windows, below. | ☐ |
| 08 | A chain-wire fence forming part of the barrier is at least 2400mm high. | ☐ |

02 Non-Climbable Zones



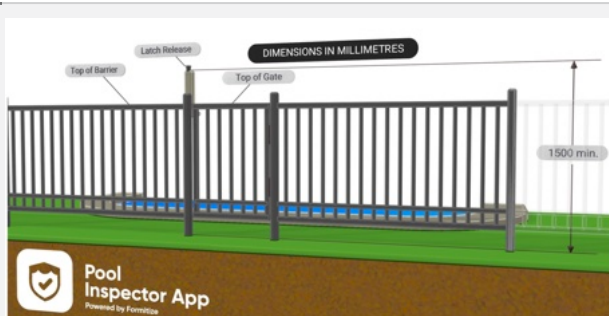
Non-climbable zone, sloped ground



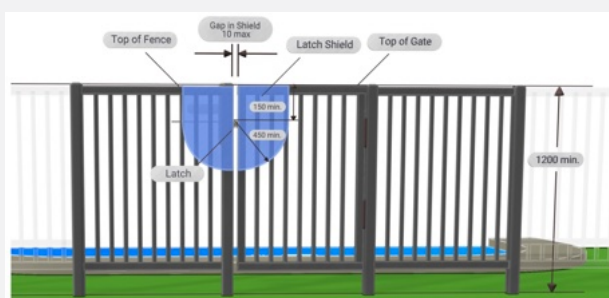
Non-climbable zone, stepped ground

- 01 No footholds, ledges or handholds within **900mm** of the barrier, measured on the outside. ☐
- 02 Any indentation or projection on the barrier greater than **10mm** is at least **900mm** from the top of the barrier, at least 900mm from the ground, and at least 900mm from any other indentation or projection. ☐
- 03 No pot plants, furniture, BBQs, bins or other climbable objects sitting near the barrier. ☐
- 04 No garden beds, retaining walls, decks or branches encroaching into the non-climbable zone. ☐

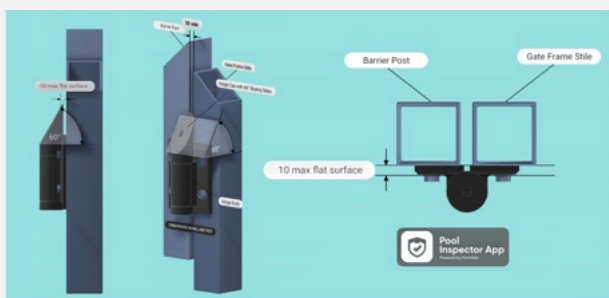
03 Gates



Latch release height



Latch shielding



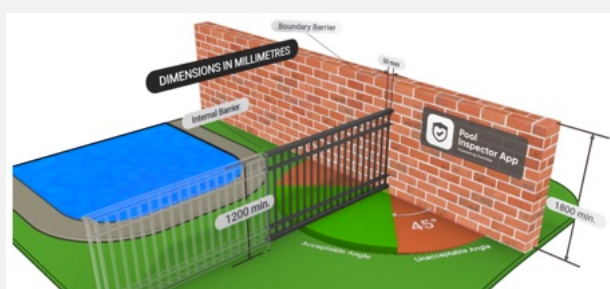
Hinge protrusion

- 01 The gate opens **outward**, away from the pool. ☐
- 02 The gate swings shut and latches itself from any open position, with no manual push needed. (Test: open the gate 10–20mm, then half and fully open.) ☐
- 03 The gap under the gate is no more than **100mm**. ☐
- 04 The latch release sits at least **1500mm** above the ground on the outside face (top image), or 150mm down from the top of the gate on the inside, with adequate shielding (centre image). ☐
- 05 Hinges don't protrude more than **10mm**, or have a sloped top. ☐
- 06 The gate cannot be opened without using the latch, and cannot be modified to be propped open (e.g. no hooks, rocks or raised ground levels). ☐

04 Boundary Fences



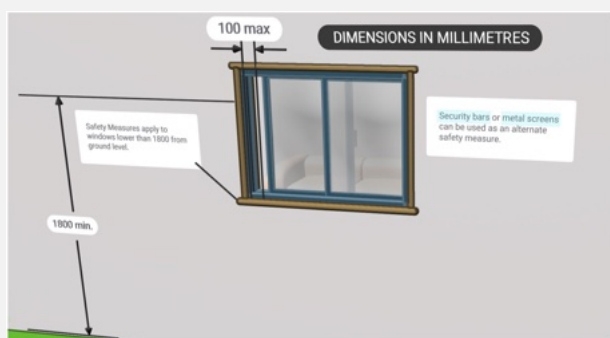
Boundary barrier non-climbable zone



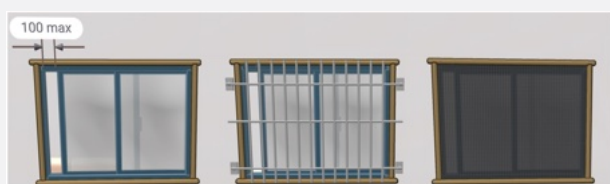
Intersecting barrier angle

- 01 If a back or side boundary fence forms part of your barrier, it's at least **1200mm** high on the outside. ☐
- 02 If the boundary fence is **1800mm** or higher, the non-climbable zone can sit on the inside (pool side) — a clear 900mm arc down from the top rail, as shown. ☐
- 03 If lower than 1800mm, the non-climbable zone must instead sit on the outside of the barrier, meeting the standard non-climbable zone requirements. ☐
- 04 Where the boundary fence meets another barrier, the top section of the intersecting barrier is no more than **50mm** wide within the 900mm non-climbable zone. ☐

05 Windows



Window sill height



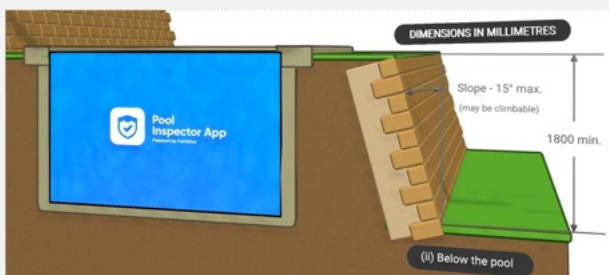
Restriction options: opening limiter, bars, screen

- 01 Any window that opens into the pool area has its lowest opening point at least **1800mm** above the ground, OR ☐
- 02 If lower than 1800mm, the window is fixed to open less than **100mm**, or fitted with security bars or a securely fastened screen. (*Plastic fly screen and window locks to restrict window opening do not comply*) ☐

06 Retaining Walls



Retaining wall above the pool



Retaining wall below the pool



Where a barrier meets a retaining wall

01 A retaining wall forming part of the barrier on the high side of the pool is at least **1800mm** high. ☐

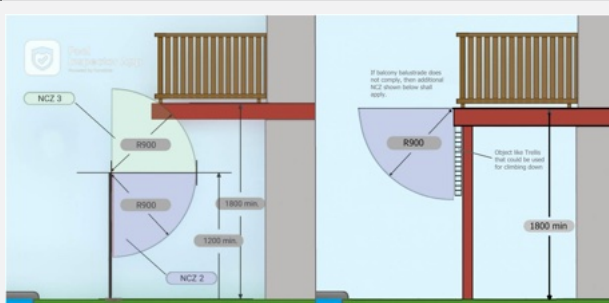
02 If lower than 1800mm, there's an additional compliant barrier at least **1200mm** high on top of it. ☐

03 On the low side of the pool, the retaining wall or an added barrier is at least **1200mm** high. ☐

04 No projections or indentations greater than **10mm** that could be used as a foothold. ☐

05 Where a barrier meets a retaining wall, it either overhangs the wall by at least **900mm**, or returns along the outer edge of the wall by at least 900mm in either direction — with no handholds, footholds or projections on the return. ☐

07 Balconies



Balcony non-climbable zone

01 A balcony connected to the pool area is at least **1800mm** above the ground, OR its railing meets the standard barrier requirements. ☐

02 The balcony doesn't protrude into the barrier's non-climbable zone. ☐

03 If stairs lead directly from the balcony into the pool area, they have a compliant barrier or gate. ☐

08 Permanent Bodies of Water (for example, a canal or a dam)



Where a barrier meets the water's edge

- 01 A permanent body of water forming part of the barrier is always present, with a depth at the edge of the pool area never less than **300mm**. ☐
- 02 It is at least **1800mm** wide along its entire length. ☐
- 03 Where a barrier meets the water, it either overhangs the water by at least **900mm**, similar to a retaining wall, or runs into the water to the point where it is 300mm deep — with no handholds, footholds or projections that would assist climbing. ☐

Get Your Pool Certified Fast — No Stress, No Guesswork

Don't wait for a compliance notice. Book your inspection today — same-day certificates available on compliant pools. We get more than 4 out of 5 pools compliant on the day, with repairs completed on site.

Schedule Your Inspection

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IMPORTANT REGULATORY INFORMATION

This checklist is a guide only and does not replace a professional inspection. Pool safety barriers are mandatory for all pools — in-ground, above-ground, indoor, outdoor, and portable — capable of holding water to a depth of 300mm or greater.

A valid pool safety certificate is required when selling, leasing, or transferring a property with a pool, and for properties under Community Title Schemes.

For official registration details, visit qbcc.qld.gov.au/home-building-owners/pool-safety. Gold Coast Pool Inspections — QBCC Lic. PS15536295.

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