

Regulations per 780 CMR Massachusetts State Building Code 6th Edition

Section 421.10.1-421.10.4

Enclosures for Private Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs

(More than 24" of water)

An outdoor private swimming pool (in-ground, above-ground, hot-tub, or spa) containing more than 24 inches of water shall be provided with a protective barrier, which comply with the following:

THE FENCE/BARRIER, Pool shall not be filled until Barrier is in Place!

1. Top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches above finished ground level.
2. 2-inch space between barrier & ground. (Side opposite the pool)
3. 4-inch space between top of pool & barrier (Maximum)
4. Openings in barrier a 4-inch sphere cannot pass through the barrier.
5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is **less than 45 inches**, the horizontal member shall not exceed 1 ¾ inches in width.
6. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is **45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed four (4) inches.**
7. 1 ¼ inch mini mesh size for chain link fences (maximum) unless slats are fastened at the top or bottom, which reduce the openings to not more than 1 ¾ inches.
8. 1 ¾ inch for diagonal members, such as a lattice fence. (Maximum)

THE GATE

1. Must be self closing
2. Must be self latching
3. Shall open outwards away from the pool
4. Must accommodate a lock
5. 54 inch minimum for self latching release mechanism OR;
6. If the release mechanism of the self-latching device is less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, then:
 - a. It shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate; and
 - b. The gate and barrier shall not have an opening greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism

THE HOUSE AS PART OF THE BARRIER

All doors including bulkheads with direct access to the pool area must have an alarm that sounds when the door and its screen, if present, are opened.

1. Must sound within 7 seconds
2. Must sound continuously for at least 30 seconds
3. Distinctive sound from other household sounds
4. 85 decibels at 10 feet
5. Automatic reset
6. Manual deactivation for 15 seconds & located at least 54 inches above the threshold.

LADDERS OR STEPS

1. A fixed or removable ladder or steps must be fenced as specified above for pools, including the gate. A removable ladder shall not constitute an acceptable alternative to enclosure requirements.

I, as the homeowner, have read and agree to comply with the above fence requirements necessary for final inspection as well as occupancy of the newly installed pool. I understand that the pool shall not be filled until the Barrier is in place.

Name:

Print

Signature

Date

Address: