



FREE ABOVE GROUND POOL BUYING GUIDE

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CRYSTAL LAKE: 815-459-0660 | PALATINE: 847-359-4490

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Careful planning and preparation will ensure maximum enjoyment from your above ground pool. The information below will help you understand the construction process and provide details about what decisions you'll need to make along the path to becoming an above ground pool owner.

Pool Placement

Since your above ground pool is an important addition to your yard, its placement is very important. Keep these tips in mind:

Sunny areas

Will help keep your pool water warm and can help cut down the amount of leaves and debris that fall in from trees.

Wind breaks

Wind blowing over a pool can greatly increase evaporation. Think about the placement of trees, shrubs, fences, or other wind breakers to lower heat loss.

Entryway

Make sure the pool will be easy to access and see from your house and think through walkways, patios, and decks you may need or want to add.

Equipment Shed

Many pool owners choose to build a small shed to house their pool equipment. The shed will protect equipment from the elements and can be an attractive addition to your yard. The closer the equipment to the pool, the better it will operate. Note: If your equipment system includes a heater, be sure to follow the installation instructions carefully and provide adequate ventilation.

Accessories

If you plan to add a deck, patio, slide, or spa, be sure to allow enough room.

Size and Shape

One of the first decisions you'll have to make is what size and shape pool best fits your backyard and family.

Size

The size of your yard and the amount of space you are willing to allot to a pool will determine the size you need. The smallest pools range from 15 to 18 feet in diameter and the largest can go up to a 30 foot round or an 18x36 foot oval!

Shape

Above ground pools generally come in two shapes:

Oval

Maximizes available yard space and provides room for laps, water basketball, volleyball, and other family sports.

Round

Easy to install, round pools are an exceptional value - you receive more pool for your money.

Height

Above ground pool heights can range from 48" to 52".

Materials and Construction

Structure

Today's pools feature sophisticated engineering and ultra-durable materials. Usually a vinyl lining is laid over a supporting structure made of steel, aluminum, wood, or resin. Resin offers advantages over other types of materials in that it does not get hot or rust and corrode like steel or aluminum and requires little maintenance.

The combination of resin with injection molding results in strong and precise, maintenance-free pool components. Injection molding:

- Permits the flexibility to curve forms reinforced with diagonal ribbing.
- Reinforces the components and curves top seats for a truly round top seat.
- Enables a sturdy snap-on process eliminating most of the hardware for reduced assembly time and effort.
- Ensures maximum resistance while offering much more lightness and rigidity than steel.
- Retains little air for even consistency and strength throughout.
- Permits texturing, arching, and detailing for superior quality and style.

Wall Pattern

A wide variety of attractive wall patterns are available allowing you to design your pool to your landscaping and neighborhood.

Liners

You will add to the beauty of your pool with exclusive patterned liners that customize your pool and make a stylish statement in your backyard.

Pool Installation

Regardless of whether you choose to install your new pool yourself or hire a professional installer, it is very important to follow the instructions provided by the pool manufacture. Deviation from the manufacturers instructions may void the pool's warranty. The steps below outline the basic installation steps for an above ground pool:

Plan Your Installation Before You Begin

Make sure your installation meets all municipal regulations and local codes related to above ground pool installations. Be sure to check the local laws regarding construction and electrical installations, and make sure your pool is installed to conform to all security regulations related to pool fencing and covers.

Check for Necessary Parts

Make sure you have all of the necessary parts and equipment to assemble and install your pool. Check the manufacturers' parts list against the parts received. If you find irregularities such as missing or defective parts, see your pool dealer for replacement parts.

Remove Sod

You must remove all sod from your pool site to prevent grass from rotting and emitting odors around your pool. Choose the best firm ground for your pool.

Level the Ground

It is very important that the ground surface is firm and solid. The pool area must be free of rocks, roots, or other sharp edged objects. Avoid installing your pool on surfaces that have been treated with oil weed-killer or chemical products which may affect the vinyl liner among other things.

The entire pool surface must be completely leveled when preparing your site. DO NOT FILL LOWER GROUND AREA. Remove all high spots and level to the lowest point. Do not add any soil to the site. Added soil will not provide the strength required to support the weight of the pool. Even if your yard looks level, chances are it is not as almost every yard requires leveling prior to pool installation.

Assemble Your Pool

Once the ground is level, follow the installation instructions provided by the pool manufacturer.

Equipment

Along with pool buying decisions comes the selection of equipment to keep your water sparkling clean.

In addition to selecting a pool that is best suited for the setting and personal preferences, you must also purchase the equipment necessary to clean and filter the pool and water.

This equipment helps you protect the pool and provide a safe environment for swimming.

The Pump

A pump pulls the water through the skimmer and filter before returning it to the pool. It is important that the pump be durable so that it lasts and operates without disturbing the people using the pool.

The Filter

A filter is essential for removing organic impurities, such as body oils, dirt, leaves, and other debris. The filter must be large enough to keep the pool clean without placing excess strain on the equipment. The filter can be a diatomaceous earth, a cartridge, or a high-rate sand model. It is important that pool owners read the instructions and understand how to operate the filter.

The Pool Heater

Another important piece of equipment is a pool heater.

Having a heater installed in your pool means that you can start your swimming season earlier, extend it later, and enjoy the most comfortable water temperatures possible. A heater also increases the value and efficiency of your pool since you can use it over a longer period of time each day and year.

Automatic Pool Cleaners

Automatic pool cleaners are devices that vacuum dirt and debris from the pool with minimal assistance from you.

Accessories

Numerous items are available that reduce the amount of time you spend maintaining your pool and increase your fun and enjoyment. Some of these accessories include:

Lights

Lighting inside and around your pool offers safety and ambiance.

Pool maintenance tools and accessories

Hayward offers a full line of high-quality tools and accessories from skimmers to thermometers to help you enjoy your pool more.

Covers

Help to keep water clean and retain heat when the pool is not in use.

Decking

A deck can extend the enjoyment of your pool and provide a place to sit and keep a careful eye on children.

Landscaping

Provides beauty, privacy, and wind protection.

Fountain

A fountain spraying into the pool can be therapeutic and beautifully complements surrounding gardens.

Screen

In some climates, a screen to keep out mosquitoes, flies, and other insects is a wise investment.

Shed for Filter and Heating Equipment

Protects these important machines from the wear and tear of the elements. Note: If your equipment system includes a heater, be sure to follow the installation instructions carefully and provide adequate ventilation.

Chemical Test Kit

Keep your water chemistry in perfect balance.



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Summary

A swimming pool is an investment that keeps providing many happy returns year after year. Those returns are in the form of family fun and family memories. You've worked hard to get to a place in your life where you can make your backyard dreams a reality. We hope this report has provided you with some very valuable information. We would love to work with you when you reach the point where you are ready to "Build your backyard dream". Let us know if we can be of any assistance.



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Yes. There is a Difference...

Arvidson Pools & Spas began in Crystal Lake, Illinois in 1958 as a family owned and operated construction company, Ben Arvidson & Sons. The name changed to Arvidson Pools & Spas in 1988 to better reflect what had become its core business... building pools swimming pools, servicing and selling portable hot tubs.

Arvidson Pools & Spas has grown to become northern Illinois' premier all-around pool and spa provider. We have installed over 2,500 pools, sold over 3,500 hot tubs and have expanded to three retail locations in Crystal Lake, Palatine and St. Charles. Our retail stores provide free computerized water analysis and recommendations, water balancing chemicals, and an extensive parts department with knowledgable staff for DIY projects. Finally, we have trained and certified professionals to provide comprehensive service and renovation to existing pools and hot tubs.

We are proud members of APSP, NFIB, local rotary clubs, and chambers of commerce. We have received numerous Design and Customer Service Awards including APSP Gold Award, Carecraft Design Excellence, NSPI Design Award, SEE (Safe and Energy Efficient) Award, Aqua 100, Best of the Fox and Watkins Outstanding Service.

The company is now owned by three grandchildren of the original owner, Dennis Marunde, Doug Marunde and Dan Arvidson.

