

POOL/SPA, WADING POOL REPLASTERING OR RESURFACING REQUIREMENTS

Submit a scope of work to Environmental Health Plan Review office when a pool or spa is re-plastered or resurfaced. Contact the Plan Review office at (916) 874-6010 for submittal instructions. Additional information may be required if the scope of work involves plumbing and/or suction outlet cover changes.

The following requirements can be found in the California Health and Safety Code, and 2019 California Building Code:

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Swimming pool shells must be white in color.
A contrasting color shall be used:
 - at the edge of pool and spa steps,
 - the top surface edges of benches in spas,
 - lane markings (not to exceed 12 inches),
 - tiles installed at the waterline,
 - and at the 4 ½ foot depth.

Spa pools may be finished in a light color other than white when approved by Environmental Management Department (EMD). (Recommend a light reflectance value of 55% or more.) (Section 3108B.3)
2. If materials other than plaster are being considered, a request for approval must be submitted and granted by EMD prior to commencing work. (Section 3108B.3)
3. The finished pool shell shall be lined with a smooth waterproof interior finish that will withstand repeated brushing, scrubbing, and cleaning procedures. The interior pool finish shall completely line the pool to the tile lines, coping, or cantilevered deck. (Section 3108B.2)
4. Depth marker requirements (Section 3110B.4):
 - Depth markers shall be provided on both sides of a swimming pool at the shallowest and deepest depths, at all breaks in slope, on both ends of the pool and along the perimeter of the pool at distances not to exceed 25 feet.
 - Spas and wading pools shall have a minimum of two depth markers.
 - Water depth is measured from the floor of the pool to the middle of the tile line on pools with skimmers and rim of gutter on pools with perimeter overflow systems. Markers should indicate depth to the nearest six inches.
 - The depth markers shall be marked in units of feet and inches; the abbreviations "FT" and "IN" may be used in lieu of using the whole word. Numerals shall be a minimum four inches in height and of a contrasting color.
5. Pool deeper than 5 feet is required to have a 4 to 6 inch wide straight line of slip-resistant contrasting tile along the floor of the pool where the water depth is 4 ½ feet. Unglazed tile is considered slip-resistant. (Section 3110B.3)
6. Means of entry and exit are required if depth is over one foot. Pools with more than one shallow end shall have stairs at each shallow end. (Section 3111B.3)
7. Stair risers shall be uniform (max. 12") and each step tread shall comply with Figure. 31B-7, and Table 31B-7 of Chapter 31B, Title 24, California Building Code.

REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED:

8. Recessed step risers shall be uniform (max. 12"). Treads shall be a minimum five inches and a width of 14 inches. Measure the first riser from the deck to tread. (3111B.4)
9. Provide a handrail over all stairs extending from the deck to the bottom step tread. The upper railing surface shall be 28 to 36 inches above the deck and each step tread. Spa shall have two handrails. (Section 3111B.6) (Refer to ADA for additional requirements)
10. Coping that is being replaced must extend over the pool wall 1 to 2 inches and not be thicker than 2 ½ inches. (Section 3112B.3)
11. All swimming pools with platforms or diving boards must be reviewed for compliance with the pool code. Platforms and diving boards shall conform to the USA Diving Rules and Codes. (Section 3113B.3) (Figure 31B-1 and 2). Diving boards and supports must be removed if they are not in compliance with the current codes.
12. When a pool is drained, it is a good time to check and repair/replace the pool lighting and to install approved drain covers. Pools with single equalizer lines or multiple skimmers that can be isolated, shall install approved split suction outlet covers three feet apart and assemblies that meet the current performance standard.
13. Where coping and/or decking is also being replaced the following shall apply:
 - a) Depth markers shall be located on coping or deck, not more than 3 ft from water (Section 3110B.4),
 - b) Markers with the universal symbol of no diving (red circle with a slash through it superimposed over the image of a diver) shall be installed whenever water depth is 6ft or shallower. Markers must be slip resistant, durable material resistant to weathering and shall be located adjacent to depth markers on deck (Section 3110B.5),
 - c) The 4ft deck shall extend on both sides and rear of any fixed disabled access assistance device (Section 3114B.1),
 - d) The pool's deck surface shall have a slope of no less than 1% (1/8 inch per foot) but no more than 2 % (1/4 inch per foot) away from the pool to a deck drainage system. (Section 3114B.1)
 - e) Indoor/outdoor carpeting or similar products are not approved for swimming or spa pool decks. Any deck material other than concrete must be approved by EMD. (Section 3114B)