

# 5 Things You Need to Know Before Building A Pool



***Building a pool is one the largest undertakings you'll experience in home ownership. Your experience can be seamless, quick and painless if you select the right partner.***

## **How to select the right pool, partner?**

The biggest mistake most homeowners make when selecting a pool builder is selecting a “pool builder”. What you need, is a partner in outdoor living. By this, we mean a partner who truly understands how to transform your backyard, not just build a swimming pool.

**Only a seasoned professional** will take the entire property into account before designing a pool. They'll look at sun and shade patterns, access to the area from your home, side yards, they'll even evaluate privacy issues if you have them, and truly understand how you want to use the spaces – for lounging, entertaining, exercise, you decide. Only after all of these topics have been thoroughly discussed, should you move onto the design phase.

## **Top 5 Things You Need to Know**

You've selected your pool partner. Now What? Make sure your design plan encompasses the pool, fencing, soft and hardscapes. Working with an all-inclusive builder (partner) will save you time, money and heartache. Working with a separate hard and landscaper after your pool is built, and your fence is up, will dramatically limit what you can do and increase costs significantly.

### **1. Landscaping**

A lush landscape design can quickly turn a concrete jungle into a tranquil backyard oasis. But it's important to know what will work for your property before you start digging the pool. Designing your soft and hardscapes at the same time you're designing your pool is incredibly important. Why? Because it saves you time any money.

Imagine the alternative...you've just built a gorgeous pool, it's filled and ready to swim. Now picture what the surrounding area looks like post pool construction; Dirt piles and tractor trails, the fence is up and the entire crew and equipment are gone. Their job as a pool builder is complete. The alternative is to build your areas

around the pool at the same time, so when your pool is complete, so are your soft and hardscapes. You pay for one design, one timeline, one project manager, one crew, one heavy equipment schedule. If you have to hire a separate landscaper, now you're talking an entirely new plan, schedule, and crew. Your landscaper will also be stuck with the area he or she is left to work with, versus developing a cohesive design with the pool.

## **2. Lifestyle**

A great pool builder will pride themselves on building destinations, not just pools. The key to a successful design is to truly understand your family's needs. Time must be taken during the design consultation phase to learn how you want to enhance your life-style. Are you looking for outdoor living and dining spaces, more shade or privacy? Do you want a modern design, rustic or something in between? What kind of hosts are you – will you have huge parties with people of all ages or intimate gatherings?

It's also good to know what kind of time pool owners can dedicate to maintaining their pools. If time is limited, pool and spa automation is a good choice. Automating basic pool functions such as cleaning and chlorinating will save pool owner time and money. Automating chlorination with salt chlorination can also dramatically change the way your pool makes you feel. Besides the benefit of chlorinating your pool water for you automatically, it also delivers a more luxurious swimming experience. The water is softer, and you won't have that harsh chlorine smell.

## **3. Budget**

The only way to get the most from your budget is with a single, cohesive total backyard design. By hiring a single designer, site manager, contractor, crew and equipment for your entire project, you will save a tremendous amount of money.

## **4. Design**

You may notice a trend in our Top 5 Pool Building List, but it bears repeating. A singular, cohesive design is the only way to achieve your goals in transforming your outdoor spaces. To separate your pool design from landscape and hardscape; is simply asking for setbacks, disappointment, frustration and wasted budget.

A beautiful unified design will ensure your lifestyle needs are met. Your pool should fit your design and enhance your property while your landscape design completes the transformation. One design = one happy homeowner!

## **5. Service**

When selecting your pool builder (partner), make sure they not only build you a new pool, they should be your partner for the life of your pool. Look for a commitment of on-site supervision during your build. Questions will arise, and a good service provider will want to ensure every step of construction is as pleasant as possible for you.

Also, many of you are new to swimming pool ownership. A good pool builder will help you understand how to run and maintain your equipment properly. They should also offer tricks and tips on pool water chemistry and how to deal with problems that could arise. They will also offer maintenance programs for complete satisfaction.

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