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Sample Guidelines For Pool Barriers Installed Outdoors

1. The top of the barrier shall be 48 inches above grade measured from the side away from the pool facing the pool. The maximum distance between the bottom of the fence and the grade is 2 inches. If the barrier is mounted on an above ground pool the maximum distance between the barrier and the pool shall be 4 inches.
2. The openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4 inch sphere.
3. Solid barriers that do not have openings, such as stone or masonry wall, shall not have indentations that allow for a climbable service.
4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the top and bottom horizontal is less than 45 inches the spacing of the vertical members shall not exceed 1.75 inch. Where there is decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inch.
5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the top and bottom horizontal is 45 inches or greater the spacing of the vertical members shall not exceed 4 inch. Where there is decorative cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inch.
6. The maximum mesh size for chain link fence shall be 1.25 inch square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top and the bottom which reduces the opening to not more than 1.75 inch.
7. Where the barrier is made of a diagonal lattice fence, the opening shall not exceed 1.75 inch.
8. Pedestrian gates shall be self closing and self latching. The gate must swing outward away from the pool. Non pedestrian gates shall have a self latching device. The release mechanism shall be 54 inches above the gate unless the following conditions are met.
 - A. The release mechanism is located on the pool side of the gate 3 inches down from the top of the gate.
 - B. There are no openings greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.
9. Where an aboveground pool structure is used as the barrier or the barrier is mounted to the top of the pool and the access to the pool is a ladder or stairs then the ladder or stairs shall be surrounded by a barrier not allowing the passage of a 4-inch sphere.
10. Filter must be far enough away from pool as to not cause a climbable surface.