

Ministerial Building Standard SA 004

Swimming pool safety – upgrading safety barriers

2019

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This standard sets out the *new prescribed requirements* that apply to a *prescribed swimming pool*, when a prescribed event occurs that triggers compliance with the Standard.

The provisions in this Standard are to safeguard young children from drowning or injury in an existing *swimming pool* by ensuring that when a prescribed event occurs, the *swimming pool* has safety features that restrict access to the pool by young children.

This Standard is a conversion of *Minister's Specification SA 76D – Swimming pool safety* and it has been updated to align with the new format for Building Standards, e.g. the introduction of performance requirements.



**Government of
South Australia**

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1. SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 This standard is published as a Ministerial Building Standard under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and must be read in conjunction with section 156 of that Act and the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Swimming Pool Safety) Regulations 2019*.
- 1.2 This standard sets out the *new prescribed requirements* that apply to a *prescribed swimming pool*, when a prescribed event occurs that triggers compliance with this Standard
- 1.3 The provisions in this Standard are to safeguard young children from drowning or injury in an existing *swimming pool* by ensuring that when a prescribed event occurs, the *swimming pool* has safety features that restrict access to the pool by young children.

2. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

- 2.1 A *swimming pool* must be provided with a barrier that is-
- (a) continuous for the full extent of the hazard; and
 - (b) of a strength and rigidity to withstand the foreseeable impact of people; and
 - (c) restrict the access of young children to the pool and the immediate pool surrounds; and
 - (b) have any gates and doors fitted with latching devices not readily operated by young children, and constructed to automatically close and latch

3. DEEMED TO SATISFY PROVISIONS

- 3.1 Performance requirement 2.1 can be satisfied by complying with the *new prescribed requirements* in 3.2 below. A reference to an Australian Standard in this section is to the edition that is current for the purposes of the *Building Code* at the time of application.

3.2 New prescribed requirements

- 3.2.1 Subject to 3.2.2, a *prescribed swimming pool* complies with the *new prescribed requirements* if it has safety barriers installed in accordance with-
- (a) AS 1926 Part 1 - *Safety barriers for swimming pools*;
 - (b) AS 1926 Part 2 - *Location of safety barriers for swimming pools*.
- 3.2.2 A *child-resistant doorset* must not be used in a barrier for an outdoor *swimming pool*, except in the situations specified in 3.2.3.
- 3.2.3 A *child-resistant doorset* may only be used in a barrier for an outdoor *swimming pool* in the following situations-
- (a) A *child-resistant doorset* can only be used to form part of a barrier for an in-ground *swimming pool* if the distance from the nearest part of the *swimming pool* to the door is less than 1.8 metres (**Figure 3.2.3a**); and
 - (b) A *child-resistant doorset* can only be used to form part of a barrier for an above ground *swimming pool* if the distance from the nearest part of the *swimming pool* to the door, after the *swimming pool* has been re-positioned as far as possible away from the door, is less than 1.8 metres (**Figure 3.2.3b**).

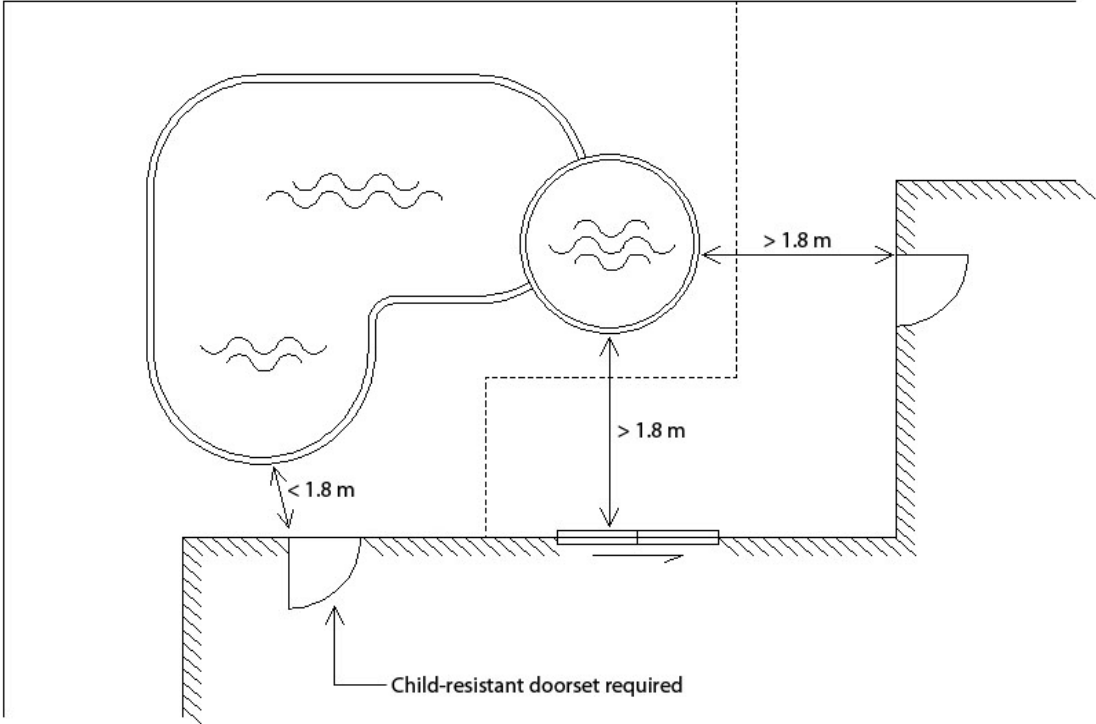


Figure 3.2.3a – In-ground swimming pools (including spa pools).

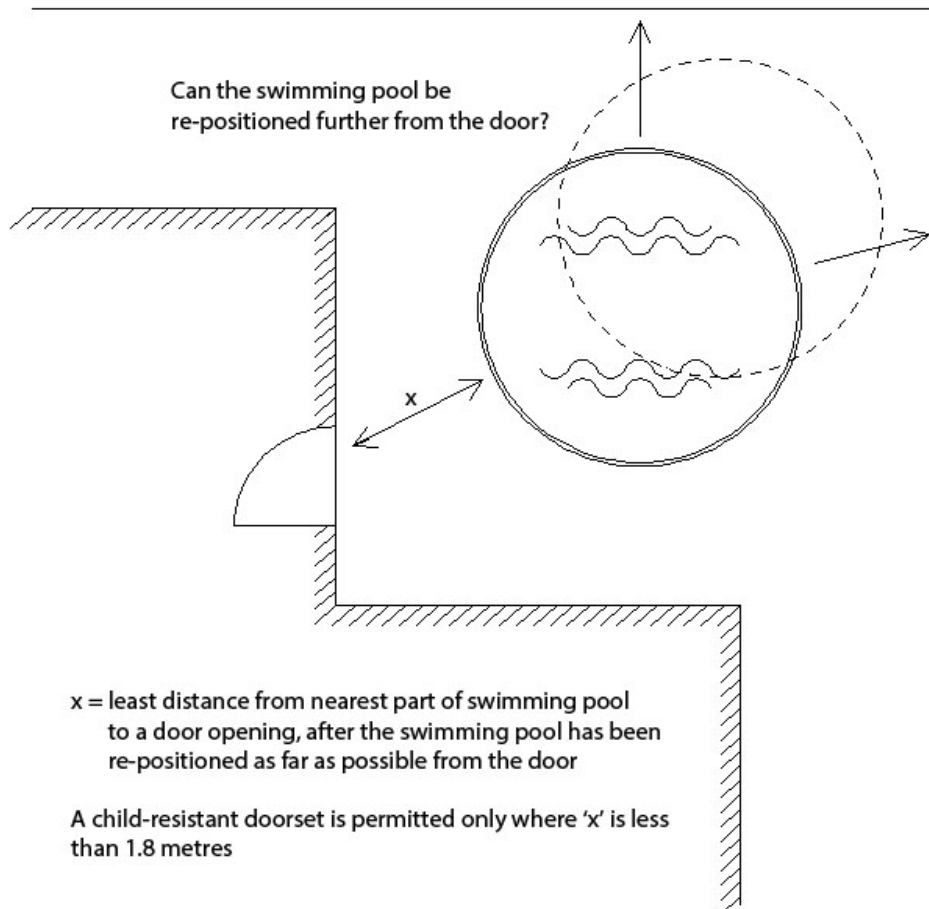


Figure 3.2.3b Above-ground swimming pool (including spa pools)

APPENDIX A - INTERPRETATION

Child-resistant doorset has the same meaning as the definition in Australian Standard AS 1926.1.

New prescribed requirements has the same meaning as defined in regulation XXX of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Swimming Pool Safety) Regulations 2019*.

Prescribed swimming pool has the same meaning as defined in regulation XXX of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Swimming Pool Safety) Regulations 2019*.

Swimming pool has the same meaning as defined in regulation XXX of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Swimming Pool Safety) Regulations 2019*.