



The ultimate guide to buying a fibre glass swimming pool from
COUNTRYWIDE POOLS



The Ultimate Guide to Buying a Fiber Glass Swimming Pool

So, you and your family have decided to invest in a swimming pool and your thinking, “where do we go from here?” Or perhaps you are still on the fence and would like to find out more info before you take the plunge! Well Countrywide Pools can help.

In the early days of the decision process it is a good idea to list the reasons why you are considering buying a pool. These reasons will help to make some more detailed decisions easier later.

There are endless reasons to want a pool. Here are some of the benefits you will get by buying a pool from Countrywide Pools:

❖ **Bring the Family Together**

Watch your children develop their swimming skills and spend hours outdoors in the pool rather than on the couch playing video games. Laughter, games, friendship and precious family memories all come from having a swimming pool.

❖ **Enjoy Rest and Recreation on your doorstep**

If you are needing some rest and relaxation in your life, then laying pool side is the ultimate way to relax. Take a dip in the cool refreshing water or have a drink by the pool after a hard day at work. Close your eyes and just imagine how good it will be.

❖ **Exercise**

Swimming is one of the best low impact exercises. You can get a cardiovascular workout while minimising stress on your joints. It keeps your heart rate up; builds endurance, muscle strength and provides a full body workout as all your muscles get used when you swim.



❖ Entertaining

We live in a digital world and sometimes it can be hard to unplug ourselves from phones, laptops and iPads. Getting together with friends and family around the pool to socialise has been shown to have great health and mental health benefits.

Price

How much will a Fibre Glass Swimming Pool cost (including installation)?

Obviously, the price will be a big factor when it comes to deciding but, there are many factors that will influence the price of your swimming pool.

An entry level price for the purchase and installation of a fibreglass swimming pool typically sits between \$20-\$40K and that price could range upwards to \$50K from there.

Yes, your right, that is a massive variation, but consider perhaps the purchase of the family car against a family swimming pool.

- ❖ Both could very well sit between \$20,000 and \$50,000. (some pools and cars are more expensive).
- ❖ The swimming pool will have a 10-year structural guarantee. The car up to 5 years.
- ❖ The pool will be installed and used for say 30 years and how long will the family car be used for, perhaps 5 – 10 years
- ❖ Increase the value of the family home by having a pool installed by Countrywide Pools.

Here are the factors that will influence the final price:

- ❖ Access to site.
- ❖ Soil conditions.



- ❖ Size and shape of the chosen pool.
- ❖ Additional water and light features you may choose to enhance the look of your pool area.
- ❖ The quality of the pool and pool equipment you choose.

What size pool do I need?

Does size matter??

Go back to the start of this guide and revisit your reasons for purchasing a pool. Different needs mean different size requirements.

If you have a large young family and the pool will be used often then you may want to go for a more sizable pool that can accommodate everyone without feeling like sardines!! You definitely do not want the children jumping on top of each other. Bigger is better for a minimal cost increase.

Or maybe you want to use the pool for exercise and you will be doing laps often. Then the length of the pool will be more important to you.

Perhaps there are only two of you that will ever be in the pool at one time. You won't require as much space if you only plan on using it to cool down in summer.

None the less, you certainly don't want to install a pool and decide after that it wasn't big enough. It's a good idea to mark out the pool you are considering in the area you would like the pool to go with tape or spray paint. This will give you an idea if it is big enough.

❖ **Pool Style and Colour**

Choosing a pool colour and style is a hard but important decision. These elements will really set the mood in your outdoor area and you are not limited when it comes to choices. I would suggest creating a board on Pinterest and pin the outdoor pool areas that you like.



Some popular styles are:

❖ Lagoon

The curved lagoon style fibre glass swimming pool gives a resort type feel. These usually have a water fall feature to give off visual and acoustic ambiance.

❖ Contemporary Square

The square edges of this modern and sophisticated style are all about straight lines and minimalistic features. Current trends make this our most popular shape sold.

❖ Roman End

A rectangular pool with a half circle on each or one end of the pool. With its elegant looks and its plentiful seating, Roman End pools can certainly enhance the look of a backyard.

When choosing a style, here are somethings you may want to consider:

- ❖ Square or straight edge pools are easier to pave
- ❖ What will fit in your outdoor area?
- ❖ What landscaping look and feel are you aiming for?
- ❖ What will be surrounding your pool? (think falling leaves, sand, dust etc)

When it comes to choosing a colour, we highly recommend you ask Countrywide Pools to show you some pools they have completed in the colours you like. A photo is never accurate, and a small sample colour square just won't give the full picture.

Deciding is much easier when you have seen a pool with all landscaping completed. It will be hard to get an idea of what your pool will look like from a work site that is still in progress.



Shire

A reputable pool company will take care of all shire approvals on your behalf. They will have the knowledge and experience to obtain your swimming pool building permit hassle free.

Rules and regulations vary from Shire to Shire so if you have any concerns, feel free to contact Countrywide Pools who have 17 years' experience with swimming pool building approvals across the Wheatbelt.

Process

The process is straight forward and lead time from signed contract to pool install can be as little as 6 weeks.

► **Step 1 Congratulation!**

You have purchased a swimming pool. We are positive that you will enjoy many years of fun and relaxation around your new pool with friends and family.

► **Step 2 Building Approval/SPASA Contract**

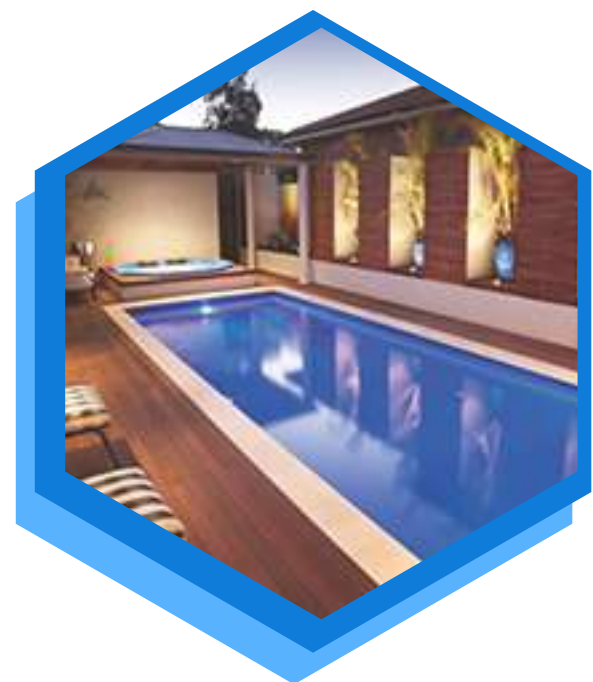
We will process all paper work and documents and submit building application to Shire for approval. We will also prepare your SPASA Contract (your completion guarantee).

► **Step 3 Peg Out**

We will come to your property and peg out where the pool will go and the hole will be dug with an excavator.

► **Step 4 Prep**

We then screed and prep the hole for pool install.



► **Step 5 Install**

We use a crane to carefully lower your pool into the hole then it is checked to insure it is perfectly level.

► **Step 6 Backfill**

We then backfill around your pool, we recommend that you also choose to have pencil point compaction, this is to ensure less movement of the pool. Creating a more stable environment.

Choosing a Pool Builder/Installer

As a general, every major pool manufacturer will have a pool dealer representing their brand in your area. For example, Countrywide Pools cover the greater Wheatbelt region from Northam to Watheroo, North East to Beacon, South East to Narrambeen, South to Beverley and all points in between as a dealer for Buccaneer, Sapphire and Aqua Technics Fibre Glass Swimming Pools.

The company that install your pool will have a large impact on your overall satisfaction and future enjoyment of your pool. So, do some homework on your pool installer and make sure you are using an honest and reliable company that is also skilled and insured.

Here are some questions you could ask to help make an informed decision when choosing a pool installer.

❖ **What warranty do you offer?**

At Countrywide Pools, all our pools include an extended lifetime structural warranty. We also include a 12 month warranty on all pool installs.

❖ **Ask for some testimonials**

See what others have to say about the company in question. Google and Facebook reviews are a great way to get an idea how others have found dealing with this -



business. Also ask to see some projects that have been completed recently or in the past. A reputable company will take pride in showing you their workmanship, unless they have something to hide.

❖ Find out about their business' history.

How long have they been in pool installation business? Do they have the knowledge and experience to install your pool? Are they professional in their dealings? Do you find it easy to communicate with them? This is always very important when working on a project together.

❖ Are they a SPASA Member?

When choosing someone to install your pool, you should always opt for a SPASA member. SPASA – The Swimming Pool and Spa Association in which members agree to abide by its rules, regulations and strict code of ethics in the conduct of their business.

Benefits of Dealing with a SPASA member

- ❖ SPASA members provide the safeguard of a **COMPLETION GUARANTEE** for all domestic pools (conditions apply).
- ❖ SPASA pool builders must use the SPASA-approved contracts for domestic pools.
- ❖ SPASA members are regularly advised of the latest technology and trade information from within Australia and overseas.
- ❖ SPASA members must comply with the Australian Standard and meet all legal requirements.
- ❖ SPASA provides a permanently staffed office, with employees that are competent to advise and appropriately refer or assist customers with their enquiries.
- ❖ SPASA members have access to technical training and educational programmes designed to ensure their construction and maintenance staff perform with technical excellence.
- ❖ Prior to acceptance as a member of SPASA, all applicants are assessed by the association as to their competence, experience and professionalism.
- ❖ Prospective members must provide evidence of successful and competent trading over a substantial period, together with an acceptable credit rating. They must also supply evidence of adequate public liability insurance to ensure protection for you, the customer.



Make sure everyone is a competent swimmer and knows how to practice pool safety.

Owning a pool is an amazing privilege but without the right safety precautions in place, your dream could quickly become a nightmare.

Here are 3 tips to keep the kids safe around the pool:

❖ Parent Supervision

Proactive parent supervision is NUMBER 1 when it comes to your child's safety around the pool. This means no reading books or texting. The children should have your full, undivided attention at all times when in the pool.

During parties it is recommended that you designate water watchers and swap shifts every 15 minutes. Supervision can and does fail so you will need additional forms of protection...

❖ Locks on windows and doors

Install locks that are out of reach of children and use at all times on any window or door that leads to the pool area. Also ensure that there is no access via doggy or cat flaps, many drownings occur because the parent had no idea their child had gotten out!

❖ Fencing

The building regulations require all private swimming pools and spas that contain water more than 300mm deep to have a compliant safety barrier installed that restricts access by young children to the pool and its immediate surrounds.

Young children love to climb so climbable objects like trees, BBQs, pool filters, retaining walls or furniture can all provide a step for a child to climb on. These objects that create a foothold must be not within 1.2m of the barrier fence. They will need to be moved or relocated.

Durable materials such as steel, aluminium, timber, glass or a combination of the above, all meet the strength requirements for Australian Standards.



Countrywide Pools

The gap between vertical slats in your fencing must not be greater than 97mm and ground clearance should also be less than 100mm from the finished, stabilised surface to the pool fence.

Countrywide Pools pride ourselves on delivering the best outcome with every pool we sell. Call us today and one of our friendly and knowledgeable staff will be more than happy to walk you through all aspects on the purchase of your new swimming pool.

Being Agents for Aqua Technics, Buccaneer and Sapphire Pools gives us complete confidence that you are purchasing a pool manufactured to the highest standard in Australia and will be project managed and installed at the same standard.

