

Guide to Drowning Prevention Products

Ensuring your pool is safe for kids and pets is critical. Understanding which pool safety products provide true protection, and which provide some benefit but still leave open the possibility for a tragic accident to occur, is the goal of this guide.

Flotation Devices



A necessary part of any pool safety plan, flotation aids (like belts and vests) aid kids while they are swimming. Life rings, buoys and even emergency bracelets add only a minimal layer of protection.

Limitations: Require planning to use and can only be deployed if someone is supervising the pool. Do not prevent accidental drowning.

Pool Alarms



Alarms installed on doors or windows that lead to pools, and water displacement sensors that will sound an alarm when a certain amount of water is displaced, are among the options here. They require a response to the sound of the alarm in order to save a life.

Limitations: You must be close enough to hear the alarm, and then fast enough to respond. Do not prevent accidental drowning.

Pool Safety Barriers



A pool barrier's function is to prevent accidental drownings by blocking the pool itself from people and pets. Options include pool fences, anchored pool covers and anchored pool nets.

Pool Safety Nets - In sunny climates, pool nets provide all the safety benefits of a cover while also allowing the sun to assist in warming the pool. A pool safety net provides an unobstructed view of the water.

Pool Safety Fences - Great for easy, regular access to the pool, while maintaining security around it. The safest kind will include a self closing and latching gate, child proof safety latches and will not be climbable by curious little ones.

Anchored Pool Covers - They not only provide security but also assist with pool maintenance. Capable of supporting the weight of the largest adult, it also keeps leaves and debris out.

Limitations: All are removable for storage and use. They only work when in place and properly secured.



NOT ALL COVERS ARE EQUAL!

Standard, non-anchored pool covers provide no pool safety benefit at all.

Pool safety products are never a substitute for adult supervision. Please supervise your swimming pool when children are present.