

## Why are pools a popular choice for families?

Aboveground pools continue to gain popularity with homeowners. It's an inexpensive way to turn your backyard into an at-home summer vacation destination, have fun with family and friends, and make lasting memories. Aside from being significantly less expensive, an Aboveground pool doesn't necessarily require the space, landscaping, or long-term commitment of an Inground pool. This makes it a great option for people just looking for a pool while they have young children.

There are so many designs, styles, innovations, and pricing to suit any lifestyle, budget, and backyard, ensuring there is an option suitable for any family's needs.

"Aboveground pools have come a long way since they were first introduced. They are visually more pleasing, and the technology, structure and material used is far more durable," explains Bill Herrmann spokesperson for Namco Pools, Patio Furniture, and Hot Tubs. Aboveground pools are also quick and easy to set up and are not permanent structures." They are available either in round or oval shapes and range from 12' to 30' round or 12'x18' to 18'x33' oval. Customers like the fact that they can install it themselves if desired, and that you can take the pool down easily in the future if necessary," adds Bill.

From an overall perspective there are basically three types of pools available. At one end of the spectrum there are Pools with top rails and vertical posts fabricated from the latest Resin injection molding technology with an Aluminum wall completing the package. At the other end are more traditional Steel-fabricated pools with the top rails, vertical posts, and walls made entirely from steel components. Right in the middle of these two categories is a hybrid option. These Hybrid models are made of Resin top rails and Steel vertical posts with the wall made up of a combination of steel and aluminum. Typically, the higher the value of the pool the longer the pool will last. At Namco Pools, Patio Furniture, and Hot Tubs, we offer 8 models to choose from across all categories and price points. "With do it yourself pool kits starting from \$699 and a full premium package including installation as high as \$10,322, there is one that will fit any budget. To make it easier we also have financing available to make owning your pool even more affordable."

Before purchasing a pool, there are some things that homeowners should consider such as the size and shape of the pool they would like, their budget, and how long they intend on keeping the pool. Consideration should also be given to whether they want a salt-water or traditional chlorine system. Additional considerations should also be given to heating, fencing, decking and access options, and whether they wish to install the pool themselves or have it professionally installed. The professional experts at Namco Pools can walk consumers through the decision-making process and offer advice and guidance through every step.

Homeowners should also check their local building codes to see what size of pool their yard can handle as well as what permits and fencing requirements are necessary. Namco can help with this as well.

"When it comes to Pool water care, it's as easy as taking a dip!" says Bill. Good pool water should be: odorless, clear, clean, sanitized, and stable. Your pool filter will take care of cleaning the water by removing the suspended particles. If you have a sand filter your only job will be to clean the filter by completing a task called backwashing. This procedure usually takes no more than 5 minutes per week

and is as simple as setting the dial on your filter to the backwash position and watching it do the work for you. Cartridge & D.E. filters take a little more effort, as they have to be manually cleaned.

The other characteristics of good pool water are achieved by monitoring and adjusting the following 4 parameters of the water on a regular basis:

1. pH (the water's relative acidity or alkalinity)
2. Total Alkalinity (the water's ability to resist pH change)
3. Free Chlorine (the level of Sanitizer in the water available to protect against pathogens)
4. Stabilizer level (the water's ability to resist chlorine depletion by sun light)

The good news is that all it takes to get accurate readings for all these is a single "Dip Test". You simply dip a test strip into your pool and in 15 seconds you have accurate, easy-to-read results for all 4 of the parameters. It is that easy.

There are other parameters that should be monitored regularly such as hardness and copper content but these tests are best completed with a sample of water that you bring to Namco's water lab for testing. We do it while you wait and it's free of charge. To make it even easier we can test the other 4 parameters at no charge as well.

Today's pools usually use some sort of chemical feeder to dispense the proper amount of sanitizer into the pool water continuously. The most you have to do with these are to refill them weekly, or in the case of salt water generators, just add salt directly to the pool water 2 or 3 times during the entire season. It really is that simple and easy.

To get the most out of your pool, Namco Pools, Patio Furniture and Hot Tubs leisure superstores also carry maintenance equipment and accessories ranging from automatic chlorine feeders, heaters, salt systems, lighting, automatic cleaners, solar blankets, fencing, ladders and stairs, as well as water purifiers, pumps and filters.

Once the pool is installed and running, Namco Pools offers a huge selection of toys and accessories to get the most enjoyment out of your pool. Some great options to enhance your pool enjoyment include inflatable floats and loungers, games and underwater toys, and water-safe lights, speakers, and fountains. Don't forget cool and comfortable options for sitting pool-side. Namco offers a selection of shade umbrellas, gazebos, patio furniture, accessories and hot tubs.