

# HOW TO CHILD PROOF YOUR POOL IN WINTER

It's easy to forget that pool safety is just as important in the colder months as it is in Summer. As the weather gets colder and your pool gets used less and less, it is crucial that you remain vigilant with your pool safety. Especially if you have young children. Below are a few tips on how to child proof your pool area in winter.

## THE RISKS



### DROWNING

Even in winter, pools are a drowning hazard for children and adults alike.



### COLD WATER

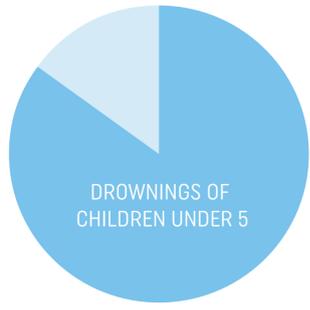
Prolonged exposure to cold water can lead to complications such as hypothermia or pneumonia.

## THE STATISTICS



### 6 CHILDREN PER YEAR

On average, six children drown in private swimming pools in NSW each year. This figure has remained constant for the last 15 years.



### 85% UNDER FIVE YEARS OLD

The majority of the children drowned every year (85%) are under five years of age. With 88% of the under-fives being aged three or younger.

## A FEW SIMPLE STEPS TO CHILD PROOF YOUR POOL

### POOL ALARM

A pool alarm will alert you if someone falls in to your pool allowing you to make a speedy rescue if necessary.

### SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Keep a flotation device or life preserver close by in case of emergency

### POOL FENCING

Make sure that your pool fence is installed correctly and meets all Australian safety standards. Ensure that it is correct minimum height and has no gaps for children to squeeze between. A glass pool fence not only looks good, but is hard for a child to climb over

### POOL GATE

Check that your gate is fitted with a regulation child proof latch

### CLIMBABLE OBJECTS

Remove any near by object will allow a child to climb over your pool fence, such as bins, furniture, boxes etc.

## PREVENTION



### TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO SWIM

It sounds obvious, but many childhood drownings could be avoided by simply teaching your children to swim. Swimming classes are available for all ages from infants to adults.



### KEEP YOUR CPR SKILLS UP TO DATE

Take a first aid course and learn life saving techniques, such as CPR, so that if an accident does happen you will know what to do.

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