

Fencing Enclosures at Public Pools California Code of Regulations

Sec. 3118B (formerly 2-9024) Enclosure of Pool Area

(a) Enclosure. The pool shall be enclosed by one or a combination of one of the following: a fence, portion of a building, wall or other approved durable enclosure. Doors, openable windows, or gates of living quarters or associated private premises shall not be permitted as part of the pool enclosure.

The enclosure, doors and gates shall meet all of the following specifications:

1. The enclosure shall have a minimum effective perpendicular height of 5 feet as measured from the outside as depicted in Figures 31B-4 and 31B-5.
2. Openings, holes or gaps in the enclosure, doors and/or gates shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere. The bottom of the enclosure shall be within 2 inches of the finished grade.
3. The enclosure shall be designed and constructed so that it cannot be readily climbed by small children. Horizontal and diagonal member designs, which might serve as a ladder for small children, are prohibited. Horizontal members shall be spaced at least 48 inches apart. Planters or other structures shall not be permitted to encroach upon the clear span area as depicted in Figure 31B-5. Chain link may be used provided that the openings are not greater than 1 3/4 inches measured horizontally.

3118B.2 Gates Gates and doors opening into the pool enclosure shall also meet the following specifications:

1. Gates and doors shall be equipped with self closing and self latching devices. The self latching device shall be designed to keep the gate or door securely closed. Gates and doors shall open outward away from the pool except where otherwise prohibited by law. Hand activated door or gate opening hardware shall be located at least 3 1/2 feet above the deck or walkway.

Exception: Doors leading from areas of hotels and motels, as defined in the Business and Professions Code Section 25503.16(b), which are open to the general public, e.g., restaurants, lobbies, bars, meeting rooms, and retail shops need not be self latching.

2. Except as otherwise provided herein, gates and doors shall be capable of being locked during times when the pool is closed. Exit doors which comply with Chapter 10 shall be considered as meeting these requirements.
3. The pool enclosure shall have at least one means of egress without a key for emergency purposes. Unless all gates or doors are so equipped, those gates and/or doors which will allow egress without a key shall be clearly and conspicuously labeled in letters at least 4 inches high "EMERGENCY EXIT".
4. The enclosure shall be designed and constructed so that all persons will be required to pass through common pool enclosure gates or doors in order to gain access to the pool area. All gates and doors exiting the pool area shall open into a public area or walkway accessible by all patrons of the pool.

3118B.3 Retroactivity. Subsections 3118B.1 and 3118B.2 shall apply only to a public swimming pool constructed on or after July 1, 1994.

3118B.4 Enclosure of pools constructed prior to July 1, 1994. When the physical characteristics of a site preclude providing a four foot deck around the perimeter of an existing pool, the enforcing agency may allow the installation of an enclosure which reduces the pool deck to less than four feet in width.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 100275 and 116050, Health and Safety Code.

Reference: Section 116050, Health and Safety Code.

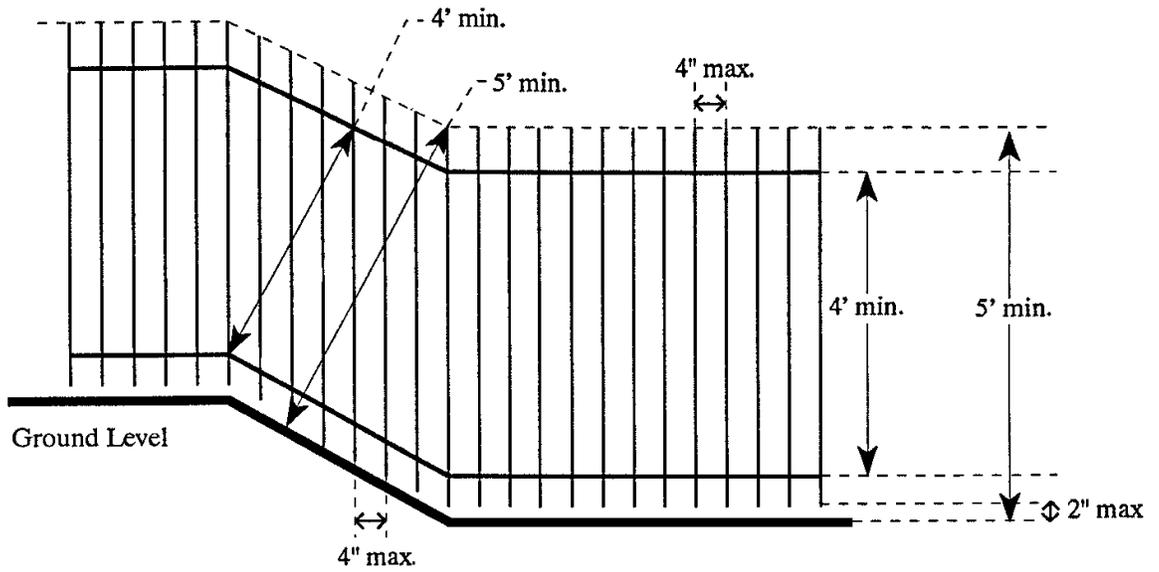


Figure 31B-4 Perpendicular fencing dimensions on sloping ground.

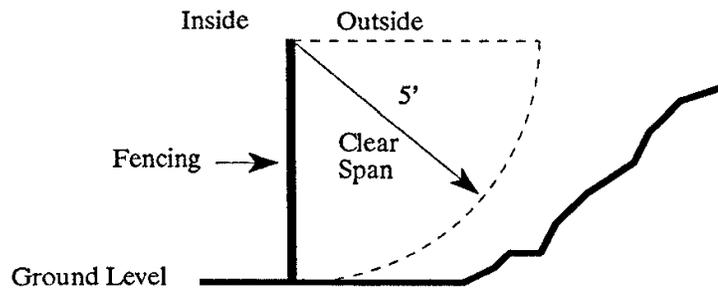


Figure 31B-5 Effective fencing height.