

Pool School

When one thinks of in ground pools, the question that almost always comes up is: what's out there and what will work for us? There are three types of in ground pools: vinyl liner pools, fiberglass pools and gunite or concrete pools. Each pool has its own distinct characterizations. Our goal here is provide some "fast facts" of each for to you. Click on the photo on right of each category to get more detail.

Vinyl Liner Pools

Fast Facts:

- * Generally speaking, the most affordable type in-ground pool available.
- * Very flexible design characteristics; if it can be drawn, more than likely it can be built (see the Mickey Mouse[®] ears and guitar shaped pool designs); pool sizes can also be exceptionally longer, wider and deeper than average.
- * Can add built in steps, benches, tanning ledges, safety ledges with lay over vinyl.
- * Pools are typically built in one-two weeks, depending on shape (standard or complex) and weather.
- * Liners are made with modern design features to include the new seamless welding technology.
- * Liners are smooth to the touch, no snags in bathing suits or scuffed feet, toes, hands or elbows.
- * Liners wear out, it's a fact and have to be replaced every 7-10 years (on average); one can purchase a different patterned liner so that it looks like a totally different pool.
- * Pool walls are typically built of galvanized steel, polymer walls, stainless steel and cement blocks.
- * Modern design and structural engineering allow for automatic pool covers to be integrated right on the wall itself (depending on shape).
- * Requires moderate amount of effort to maintain.
- * Pool walls assembled on site as well as forming of vermiculite floor.

[Click Here for more detail](#)



Fiberglass Pools

Fast Facts:

- * Fiberglass Pools are the longest lasting, most durable type in ground pool available, no liners to replace, no acid washing.
- * Over 100 pool design options to choose from.
- * Beautiful, rich, luxurious color options to choose from.
- * Steps, benches, safety ledges, all built in.
- * Smooth walls, textured floors and steps for anti-slip.
- * Chemically inert surface for maximum chemical effectiveness.
- * Typical installation: one-two weeks.
- * Very low maintenance, easiest pool to take care of.
- * Pool molds have laser leveled coping, reinforced or closed bond beam construction.
- * Pools are made from molds that are reinforced by steel framework, making each pool very uniform.
- * Pools are designed to receive waterline tile and mosaics (not necessary but looks good).
- * All pools are built in factory environment, allowing for the best quality control conditions.
- * Lowest long term operating costs of any type of in-ground pool.

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Gunite/Concrete Pools

Fast Facts:

- * Most versatile design characteristic of any type of pool.
- * Shapes can be almost any design you or pool professional, architect can imagine.
- * Generally the most expensive type of pool to build.
- * Typical installation: two months plus.
- * Can reach very deep depths, wider and longer than average sizes.
- * Can easily have slides, waterfalls and many other type water features "built-in"
- * Requires the most maintenance.
- * Many different types of finishes can be applied, plaster of various color, Diamond Brite finishes, tiles, etc.
- * Almost all pools take on waterline tile
- * All pools are built in the field.
- * Highest amount of long term operating costs of any type of in-ground pool due to acid washing, tile rework, new plastering/finishing and additional chemicals.

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