THE PHYSICAL BARRIERS

The proper physical barriers serve as a crucial layer of protection. When used correctly, each of these barriers can make your home a little safer. The Department of Health recommends incorporating a number of different barriers to ensure safety. Many pool contractors can provide these barriers at the time of pool installation or can recommend an appropriate vendor or contractor. *The prices below are for estimation purposes only.*

COST LEGEND: $: 0–$49   **$$:** $50–$250   **$$$:** $251–$500   **$$$$:** $501–$1000   **$$$$$:** $1001+

POOL SAFETY FENCES

(Fiberglass Post Fencing or Aluminum Post Fencing with textile mesh or interlocking mesh)

Should completely encircle the pool blocking entrance from the house or yard. The fence should be at least 4 feet high and have no holes or gaps that could allow a child to pass through.

COST: $$$$$

SELF-CLOSING & SELF-LATCHING GATES

The gate should be self-closing, self-latching and open out from the pool. So even if the gate is not latched properly, a child leaning against it will force the gate to lock.

COST: $$$$

CHILDPROOF LOCKS

An inexpensive way to keep your child in the house. Makes the doorknob difficult for a child to turn.

COST: $

DOOR/WINDOW ALARMS

Know the second your child goes outside. Chapter 515 states that all doors and windows providing direct access from the home to the pool must have an alarm.

Be sure to test and install battery operated alarms or plug-in alarms with battery backup according to manufacturer's instructions.

COST: $

DOORS

Chapter 515 states that all doors providing direct access from the home to the pool should have a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism no lower than 54 inches above the floor.

COST: $$

SAFETY COVER

A sturdy barrier between the water and children. Make sure the cover was designed for safety, not to keep the leaves out. The safety cover should be custom built and fitted for your pool.

COST: $$$$$

POOL ALARMS

Senses movement in the pool, alerting you if your child falls in.

COST: $$

Florida HEALTH