

# LICENCE

for

Licensee:

Date:

Click on the red box above to activate the Licence Agreement scroll bar.

## WEB LINKS

- Check if this document is current
- Find similar documents
- Visit our website

International Standards on-line at [infostore.saiglobal.com/store](http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store)

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

**Swimming pool safety**

**Part 2: Location of safety barriers for  
swimming pools**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee CS-034, Safety of Private Swimming Pools. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 17 January 2007. This Standard was published on 12 July 2007.

---

The following are represented on Committee CS-034:

- Australian Building Codes Board
- Australian Industry Group
- Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
- Australian Safe Communities Foundation
- Australian Wire Industry Association
- Consumers Federation of Australia
- Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport (NT)
- Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation (Queensland)
- Kidsafe National
- National Injury Surveillance Unit
- Office of Fair Trading NSW Consumer Protection Agency
- Planning South Australia
- Royal Life Saving Society Australia
- Swimming Pool and Spa Association of NSW
- Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Victoria
- Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Western Australia

A1

---

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 05246.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

---

### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Australian Standards® are living documents that reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued.

Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments that may have been published since the Standard was published.

Detailed information about Australian Standards, drafts, amendments and new projects can be found by visiting [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

Standards Australia welcomes suggestions for improvements, and encourages readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at [mail@standards.org.au](mailto:mail@standards.org.au), or write to Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001.

---

# Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

## Swimming pool safety

### Part 2: Location of safety barriers for swimming pools

Originated as part of SAA MP33—1977.  
Second edition 1980.  
Revised and redesignated as AS 2818—1985.  
Second edition 1986.  
Revised and redesignated in part as AS 1926.2 (Int)—1993.  
Revised and redesignated as AS 1926.2—1995.  
Second edition 2007.  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (April 2008).

#### COPYRIGHT

© Standards Australia

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Published by Standards Australia GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia  
ISBN 0 7337 8287 6

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards pool owners/users Committee CS-034, Safety of Private Swimming Pools, to supersede AS 1926.2—1995.

*This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (April 2008). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.*

The objective of this Standard is to assist pool users/owners in avoiding pool-related drowning by providing options for the location of pool barriers, which are designed to deny, delay or detect unsupervised entry to the swimming pool area by young children.

This Standard is part of a series dealing with barriers, location of barriers and water recirculation and filtration systems for swimming pools as follows:

AS

1926	Swimming pool safety
1926.1	Part 1: Safety barriers for swimming pools
1926.2	Part 2: Location of safety barriers for swimming pools (this Standard)
1926.3	Part 3: Water recirculation and filtration systems

This edition incorporates the following major changes to the previous Standard:

- (a) New definitions for different pool barrier configurations and locations have been included.
- (b) The former Options A and B have been combined into Clause 4.2.
- (c) A new Clause covering indoor pools has been drafted as Clause 4.4.
- (d) The former Option C has been moved to Clause 4.3. As this Option is subject to individual State and Territory regulations, Option C, which is now termed ‘Barriers with child-resistant doorsets’ has been placed in Appendix A for ease of regulators dealing with the Option through their legislation and regulations.

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of the Standard, whereas in an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

Notes to the text contain information and guidance. They are not an integral part of the Standard.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables and figures are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE.....	4
2 REFERENCED DOCUMENT.....	4
3 DEFINITIONS.....	4
4 OPTIONS FOR LOCATION OF BARRIERS.....	6
APPENDICES	
A BARRIERS WITH DOORSETS AND WINDOWS.....	8
B FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN BARRIER LOCATION.....	10

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**  
**Swimming pool safety**

**Part 2: Location of safety barriers for swimming pools**

**1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out options for the location of safety barriers intended to restrict the access of young children to swimming pools.

## NOTES:

- 1 Public swimming pools have different human dynamics, such as access for people with disabilities, increased gate usage, crowd behaviour and supervision, and the duplication of the requirements of this Standard may not always be appropriate.
- 2 Guidance on factors to be considered in selecting the location of barriers is given in Appendix B.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENT**

A1 | The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1926	Swimming pool safety
1926.1	Part 1: Safety barriers for swimming pools
2818	Guide to swimming pool safety

**3 DEFINITIONS****3.1 Barrier**

The assembly of components, natural or otherwise, that forms the intended barrier to the pool. The barrier includes items such as posts and panels, gates and doorsets constructed or natural walls, sides of buildings, child-resistant windows, balustrades on a balcony, where they form part of the intended barrier.

**3.2 Child-resistant doorset**

A doorset that comprises a door, door frame, self-closing device and self-latching device, that is designed to provide an access way from the building to the swimming pool.

**3.3 Combined pool**

A part indoor pool and a part outdoor pool.

**3.4 Fencing**

A barrier comprising a fence and associated gate or gates.

**3.5 Gate**

Any portion of the barrier, other than a child-resistant doorset, that is designed to provide an access way through the barrier.

**3.6 House only barrier**

A1 | A barrier that restricts access from the house to the pool, using doorsets and windows that are child-resistant.

### 3.7 House plus barrier

- A1 | A barrier that restricts access from the house to the pool, using doorsets and windows that are child-resistant, and adjoining properties to the perimeter barrier.

### 3.8 Indoor pool

A pool fully enclosed by a building.

### 3.9 Isolation barrier

A fence that isolates all unrelated pool ancillary structures from the pool area.

### 3.10 Outdoor pool

A pool not fully enclosed by a building.

### 3.11 Perimeter barrier

- A1 | Barriers primarily located along the property boundaries with no child-resistant doorsets or child-resistant windows from the house to the pool.

### 3.12 Pool area

The area that surrounds the pool that is separated from the rest of the allotment by a safety barrier.

NOTE: The pool area may be defined differently by regulating authorities.

### 3.13 Swimming pool (referred to as 'pool' in this Standard)

- A1 | Any excavation or structure containing water to a depth greater than 300 mm and used primarily for swimming, wading, paddling or the like, including a bathing or wading pool or spa.

NOTE: The definition of a swimming pool may vary from State to State and Territory to Territory. Refer to the appropriate regulatory authority.

### 3.14 Young child

A child under the age of five years.

## 4 OPTIONS FOR LOCATION OF BARRIERS

### 4.1 General

All barriers shall comply with AS 1926.1. The location of barriers shall comply with Clauses 4.2, 4.3, or 4.4 as applicable.

### 4.2 Outdoor pools

A1 | Barriers for outdoor pools shall not permit direct access to the pool area from the building or adjoining properties. Where the wall of a building forms part of the barrier, a child-resistant window that complies with AS 1926.1, is permitted.

NOTE: A gate that is deliberately propped open or a faulty gate that does not comply with AS 1926.1 or a fence that is not properly maintained compromises the safety of the barrier.

A balcony projecting into a pool area or a non-climbable zone shall comply with AS 1926.1.

Typical examples of barrier locations are given in Figure 2.1.

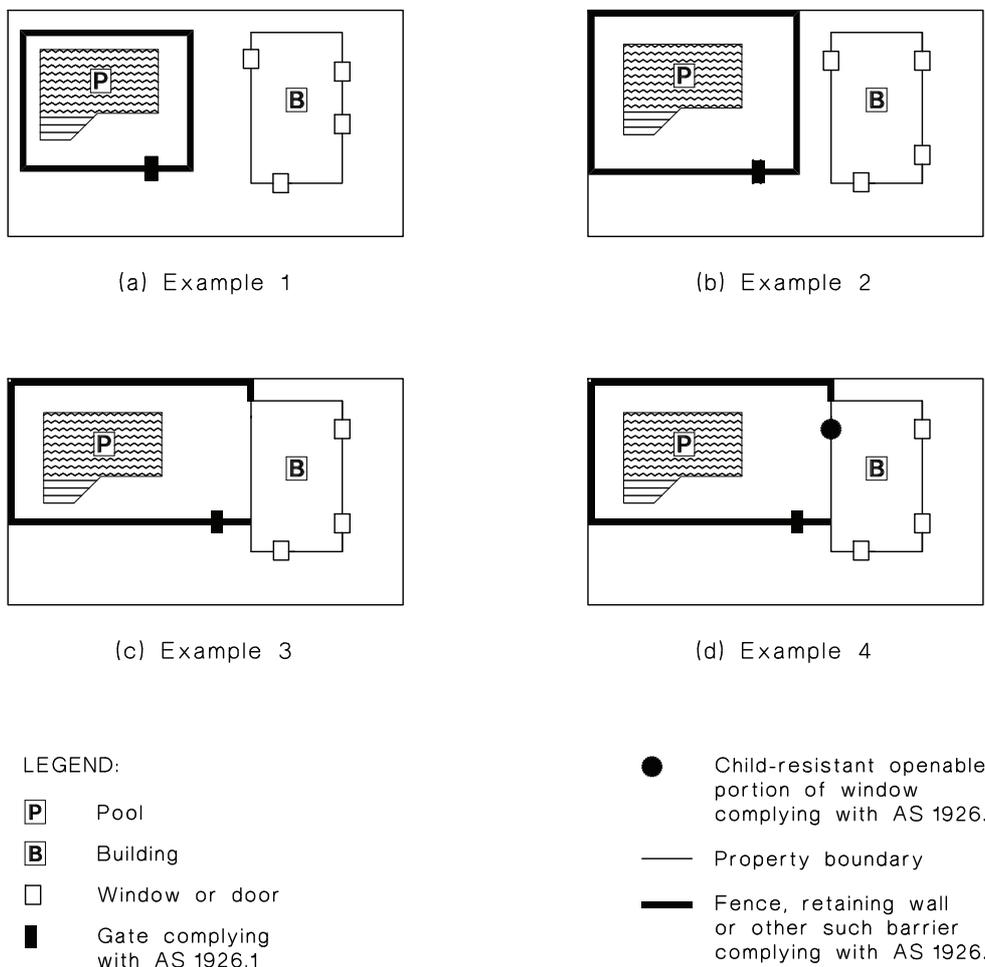


FIGURE 2.1 TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF OUTDOOR POOL BARRIER LOCATIONS

### 4.3 Barriers with child-resistant doorsets

In jurisdictions where barriers with child-resistant doorsets are permitted, the barrier shall comply with Appendix A.

### 4.4 Indoor pools and combined pools

#### 4.4.1 *Indoor pool*

- A1 | Access to an indoor pool shall be via a child-resistant doorset that complies with AS 1926.1. Where windows are present in the pool barrier, they shall be child-resistant in accordance with AS 1926.1.

#### 4.4.2 *Combined pool*

Where there is a combined pool, the barrier requirements for each section of the pool shall be determined as if the pool was exclusive to the area in which that section is located.

- A1 | The indoor section of the pool shall be accessible via a child-resistant doorset or gate that complies with AS 1926.1.

The outdoor section of the pool shall be accessible via a barrier that complies with Clauses 4.2 or 4.3, as applicable.

## APPENDIX A

A1

## BARRIERS WITH DOORSETS AND WINDOWS

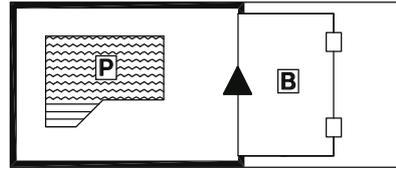
(Normative)

Where the wall of a building forms part of the barrier, child-resistant doorsets and child-resistant openable portions of windows complying with AS 1926.1 are permitted.

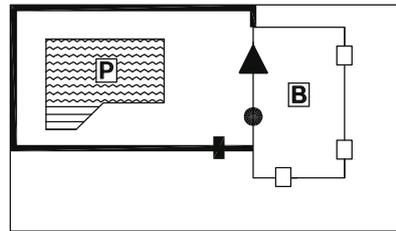
A balcony projecting into the pool area or a non-climbable zone shall comply with AS 1926.1.

NOTE: Child health authorities have advised that a four-sided barrier that only allows access to the pool via purpose-designed pool gates is more likely to restrict access of young children to swimming pools than if child-resistant doorsets are permitted in the barrier. Accordingly, a four-sided barrier with child-resistant doorsets that permit access from a building to a pool is a less safe option that should only be permitted when physical circumstances preclude a four-sided barrier without child-resistant doorsets. Such circumstances include indoor swimming pools or the indoor portion of an outdoor/indoor swimming pool or when unusually small allotments are considered and an external wall of an existing building is being considered as part of the pool barrier.

Typical examples of barriers with child-resistant doorsets are given in Figure A1.



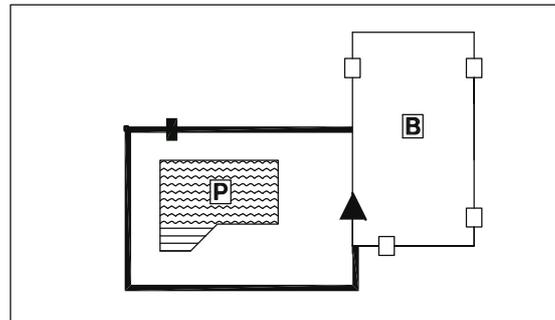
(a) Example 1



(b) Example 2

LEGEND:

- P** Pool
- B** Building
- Window or door
- █ Gate complying with AS 1926.1
- ▲ Barrier with child-resistant doorset complying with AS 1926.1
- Barrier with child-resistant window complying with AS 1926.1
- Property boundary
- ▬ Barrier



(c) Example 3

FIGURE A1 TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF BARRIERS WITH CHILD-RESISTANT DOORSETS

## APPENDIX B FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN BARRIER LOCATION

### (Informative)

The distance of the barrier from the pool should take into consideration a safety margin sufficient to discourage diving and jumping from the barrier into the pool. The barrier should be located to enable adult supervision from within the pool area. Whenever a young child is inside a pool area, constant supervision is essential.

Where possible, tool sheds, garages, barbecues and clotheslines should be located outside the pool area to reduce the likelihood of self-closing gates being propped open in order to gain access.

The possibility that the compliance of boundary fences including the non-climbable zone (NCZ), used as pool safety barrier may be compromised by actions taken by adjoining property owners should be taken into consideration at the design stage and, where considered a possible outcome, selection of 1800 mm high barrier option adopted. Refer to AS 1926.1.

The type of barrier and location of the pool within the property should permit viewing through or over the barrier so that the pool area may be directly viewed from commonly used areas of the building or yard.

The location of a barrier should be related to the need for protection and should take into account all the circumstances of the particular site. Most drowning victims in private pools are under the age of five years and are residents or invited visitors.

Most children who drown in a pool protected by a barrier gain access through a gate or doorset. It is important that the access point be maintained in accordance with AS 2818.

**AMENDMENT CONTROL SHEET****AS 1926.2—2007**

---

**Amendment No. 1 (2008)**

---

**CORRECTION**

*SUMMARY:* This Amendment applies to the Inside front cover, Preface, Clauses 2, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11, 3.13, 4.2, 4.4.1, 4.4.2 and Appendix A.

Published on 28 April 2008.

---

NOTES

## **Standards Australia**

Standards Australia develops Australian Standards® and other documents of public benefit and national interest. These Standards are developed through an open process of consultation and consensus, in which all interested parties are invited to participate. Through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth Government, Standards Australia is recognized as Australia's peak non-government national standards body. Standards Australia also supports excellence in design and innovation through the Australian Design Awards.

For further information visit [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

## **Australian Standards®**

Committees of experts from industry, governments, consumers and other relevant sectors prepare Australian Standards. The requirements or recommendations contained in published Standards are a consensus of the views of representative interests and also take account of comments received from other sources. They reflect the latest scientific and industry experience. Australian Standards are kept under continuous review after publication and are updated regularly to take account of changing technology.

## **International Involvement**

Standards Australia is responsible for ensuring the Australian viewpoint is considered in the formulation of International Standards and that the latest international experience is incorporated in national Standards. This role is vital in assisting local industry to compete in international markets. Standards Australia represents Australia at both the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

## **Sales and Distribution**

Australian Standards®, Handbooks and other documents developed by Standards Australia are printed and distributed under license by SAI Global Limited.

*For information regarding the development of Standards contact:*

Standards Australia Limited  
GPO Box 476  
Sydney NSW 2001  
Phone: 02 9237 6000  
Fax: 02 9237 6010  
Email: [mail@standards.org.au](mailto:mail@standards.org.au)  
Internet: [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

*For information regarding the sale and distribution of Standards contact:*

SAI Global Limited  
Phone: 13 12 42  
Fax: 1300 65 49 49  
Email: [sales@sai-global.com](mailto:sales@sai-global.com)

