

PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL AND SPA/HOT TUB INFORMATION PACKAGE



REVISIONS
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APPENDIX G SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS

SECTION AG101 GENERAL

AG101.1 General. The provisions of this appendix shall control the design and construction of swimming pools, spas and hot tubs installed in or on the lot of a one- and two-family dwelling.

SECTION AG102 DEFINITIONS

AG102.1 General. For the purposes of these requirements, the terms used shall be defined as follows and as set forth in Chapter 2.

ABOVE-GROUND/ON-GROUND POOL. See "Swimming pool"

BARRIER. A fence, wall, building wall or combination thereof which completely surrounds the swimming pool and obstructs access to the swimming pool.

HOT TUB. See "Swimming pool."

IN-GROUND POOL. See "Swimming pool."

RESIDENTIAL. That which is situated on the premises of a detached one- or two-family dwelling or a one-family townhouse not more than three stories in height.

SPA, NONPORTABLE. See "Swimming pool."

SPA, PORTABLE. A nonpermanent structure intended for recreational bathing, in which all controls, water-heating and water-circulating equipment are an integral part of the product.

SWIMMING POOL. Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 24 inches (610 mm) deep. This includes in-ground, aboveground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas. [In Accordance with Section R105.2 prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches deep are exempt from permit requirements.](#)

SWIMMING POOL, INDOOR. A swimming pool which is totally contained within a structure and surrounded on all four sides by walls of said structure.

SWIMMING POOL, OUTDOOR. Any swimming pool which is not an indoor pool.

SECTION AG103 SWIMMING POOLS

AG103.1 In-ground pools. In-ground pools shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-5 as listed in Section AG108.

AG103.2 Above-ground and on-ground pools. Aboveground and on-ground pools shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-4 as listed in Section AG108.

SECTION AG104 SPAS AND HOT TUBS

AG104.1 Permanently installed spas and hot tubs. Permanently installed spas and hot tubs shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-3 as listed in Section AG108.

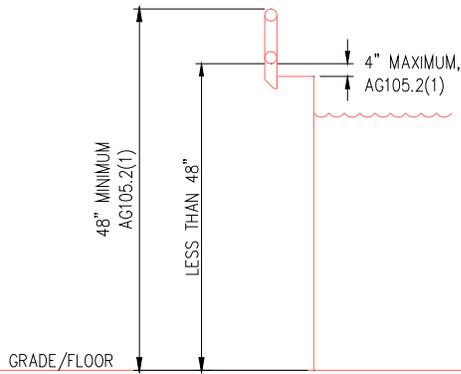
AG104.2 Portable spas and hot tubs. Portable spas and hot tubs shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-6 as listed in Section AG108.

SECTION AG105 BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

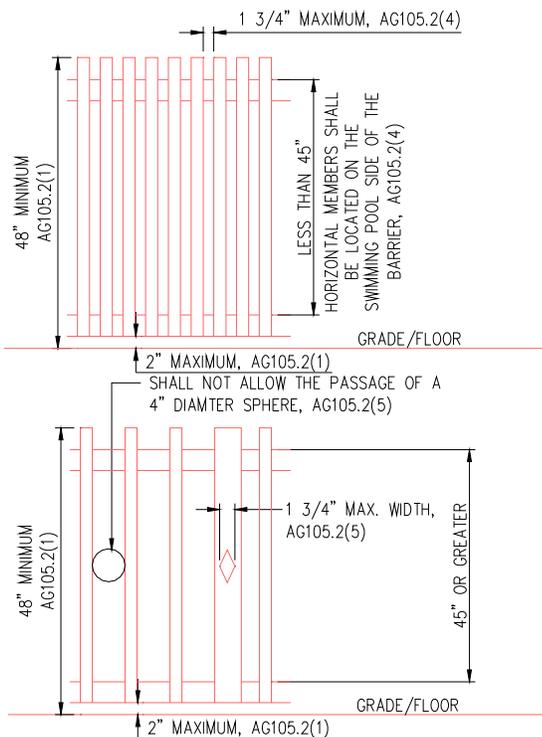
AG105.1 Application. The provisions of this chapter shall control the design of barriers for residential swimming pools, spas and hot tubs. These design controls are intended to provide protection against potential drownings and near-drownings by restricting access to swimming pools, spas and hot tubs.

AG105.2 Outdoor swimming pool. An outdoor swimming pool, including in-ground, aboveground or on-ground pool, hot tub or spas shall be provided with a barrier that shall comply with the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be at least 48 inches above grade measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the swimming pool. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the swimming pool. Where the top of the pool structure is above grade, such as an aboveground pool, the barrier may be at ground level, such as the pool structure, or mounted on top of the pool structure. Where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, the maximum vertical clearance between the top of the pool structure and the bottom of the barrier shall be 4 inches.



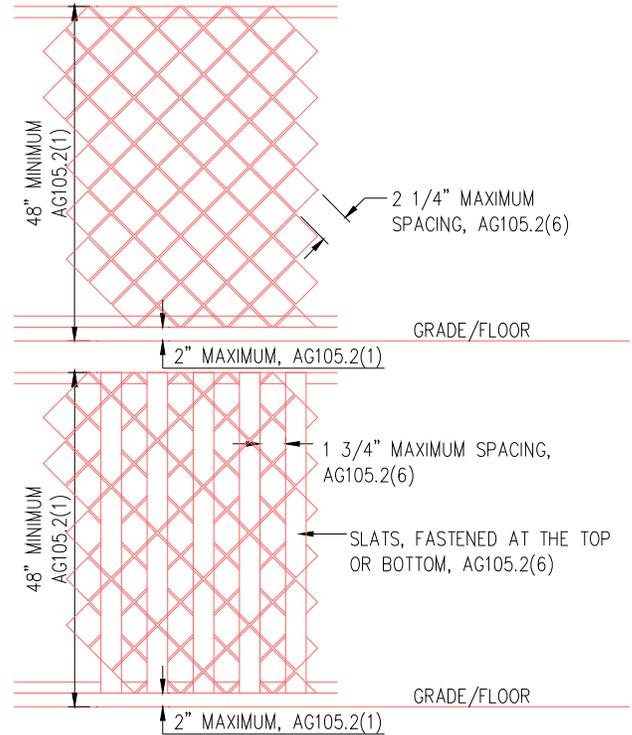
2. Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter sphere.
3. Solid barriers that do not have openings, such as masonry or stone walls, shall not contain indentations or protrusions except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.
4. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches, the horizontal members shall be located on the swimming pool side of the barrier. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical or horizontal members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width.



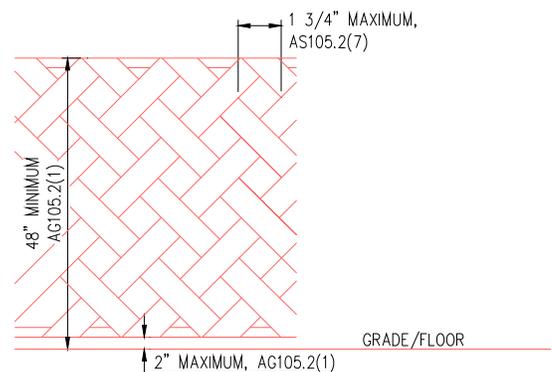
5. Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches or more, spacing between vertical members shall not allow passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere. Where

there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1 3/4 inches in width.

6. Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2 1/4 inch square unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce the openings to not more than 1 3/4 inches.

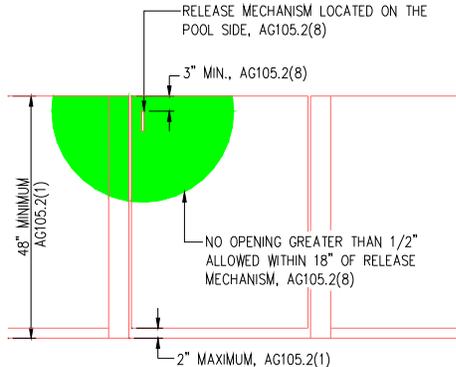


7. Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, such as a lattice fence, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall not be more than 1 3/4 inches.



8. Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Section AG105.2, Items 1 through 7, and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool and shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Gates other than pedestrian access gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism and

surrounding openings shall comply with the following: The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the release mechanism.



9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier one of the following conditions shall be met:

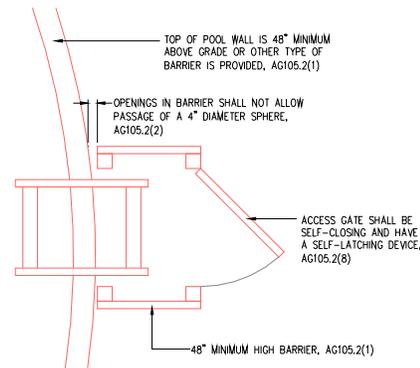
9.1. The pool shall be equipped with a power safety cover in compliance with ASTM F1346-91; or

9.2. All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm that produces an audible warning when the door and its screen, if present, are opened. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds within 7 seconds after the door and its screen, if present, are opened and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal activities. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm system shall be equipped with a manual means, such as touchpad or switch, to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last for not more than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch(es) shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door; or

9.3. All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device with the release mechanism located a minimum of 54 inches above the door threshold. Swinging doors shall open away from the pool area.

10. Where an aboveground or on-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps, then the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier

which meets the requirements of Section AG105.2 Items 1 through 9.



AG105.3 Indoor swimming pool. All walls surrounding an indoor swimming pool shall comply with Section AG105.2, Item 9.

AG105.4 Prohibited locations. Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers.

AG105.5 Barrier exceptions. Spas or hot tubs with a safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346, as listed in Section AG107, shall be exempt from the provisions of this appendix.

AG105.6 Temporary enclosure. A temporary enclosure shall be installed prior to the commencement of the installation of any in-ground swimming pool unless the permanent barrier specified in Section AG105.2 is in place prior to the commencement of the installation. The temporary enclosure shall be a minimum of 4 feet in height, shall have no openings that will allow passage of a 4-inch sphere and shall be equipped with a positive latching device on any openings.

AG105.7 Pool alarm. No building permit shall be issued for the construction or substantial alteration of a swimming pool at a residence occupied by, or being built for, one or more families unless a pool alarm is installed with the swimming pool. As used in this section, "pool alarm" means a device that emits a sound of at least 50 decibels when a person or an object weighing 15 pounds or more enters the water in a swimming pool.

Exception: Hot tubs and portable spas shall be exempt from this requirement.

SECTION AG106 ENTRAPMENT PROTECTION FOR SWIMMING POOL AND SPA SUCTION OUTLETS

AG106.1 General. Suction outlets shall be designed to produce circulation throughout the pool or spa. Single outlet systems, such as automatic vacuum cleaner systems, or other such multiple suction outlets whether isolated by valves or otherwise shall be protected against user entrapment.

AG106.2 Suction fittings. All Pool and Spa suction outlets shall be provided with a cover that conforms with ANSI/ASME A112.19.8M, or a 12" x 12" drain grate or larger, or an approved channel drain system.

Exception: Surface skimmers

AG106.3 Atmospheric vacuum relief system required. All pool and spa single or multiple outlet circulation systems shall be equipped with atmospheric vacuum relief should grate covers located therein become missing or broken. Such vacuum relief systems shall include at least one approved or engineered method of the type specified herein, as follows:

1. Safety vacuum release system conforming to ASME A112.19.17, or
2. An approved gravity drainage system

AG106.4 Dual drain separation. Single or multiple pump circulation systems shall be provided with a minimum of two (2) suction outlets of the approved type. A minimum horizontal or vertical distance of three (3) feet shall separate such outlets. These suction outlets shall be piped so that water is drawn through them simultaneously through a vacuum relief-protected line to the pump or pumps.

AG106.5 Pool cleaner fittings. Where provided, vacuum or pressure cleaner fitting(s) shall be located in an accessible position(s) at least (6) inches and not greater than twelve (12) inches below the minimum operational water level or as an attachment to the skimmer(s).

SECTION AG107 ABBREVIATIONS

AG107.1 General.

ANSI—American National Standards Institute 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036

ASTM—American Society for Testing and Materials 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

NSPI—National Spa and Pool Institute 2111 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314

SECTION AG108 STANDARDS

AG108.1 General.

ANSI/NSPI

ANSI/NSPI-3-99 Standard for Permanently Installed Residential Spas AG104.1

ANSI/NSPI-4-99 Standard for Above-ground/On-ground Residential Swimming Pools AG103.2

ANSI/NSPI-5-03 Standard for Residential In-ground Swimming Pools AG103.1

ANSI/NSPI-6-99 Standard for Residential Portable Spas AG104.2

ANSI/ASME A112.19.8M-1987 Suction (R1996) Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs and Whirlpool Bathing Appliances AG106.2

ASTM

ASTM F 1346-91 (2003) Performance Specification for Safety Covers and Labeling Requirements for All Covers for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs AG105.2, AG105.5

ASME

ASME A112.19.17 2002 Manufacturers Safety Vacuum Release Systems (SVRS) for Residential and Commercial Swimming Pool, Spa, Hot Tub and Wading Pool AG106.3

2003
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE

504.3 Swimming pools. Swimming pools shall be provided with energy-conserving measures in accordance with Section 504.3.1 through 504.3.3.

504.3.1 On-off switch. All pool heaters shall be equipped with an ON-OFF switch mounted for easy access to allow shutting off the operation of the heater without adjusting the thermostat setting and to allow restarting without relighting the pilot light.

504.3.2 Pool covers. Heated swimming pools shall be equipped with a pool cover.

Exception: Outdoor pools deriving more than 20 percent of the energy for heating from renewable sources (computed over an operating season) are exempt from this requirement.

504.3.3 Time clocks. Time clocks shall be installed so that the pump can be set to run in the off-peak electric demand period and can be set for the minimum time necessary to maintain the water in a clear and sanitary condition in keeping with applicable health standards.

Chapter 41 SWIMMING POOLS

E4101 GENERAL

E4101.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the construction and installation of electric wiring and equipment associated with all swimming pools, wading pools, decorative pools, fountains, hot tubs and spas, and hydro massage bathtubs, whether permanently installed or storable, and shall apply to metallic auxiliary equipment, such as pumps, filters and similar equipment. Sections E4102 through E4106 provide general rules for permanent pools, spas and hot tubs. Section E4107 provides specific rules for storable pools. Section E4108 provides specific rules for spas and hot tubs. Section E4109 provides specific rules for hydro massage bathtubs.

E4101.2 Definitions.

CORD- AND PLUG-CONNECTED LIGHTING ASSEMBLY. A lighting assembly consisting of a cord and plug connected transformer and a lighting fixture intended for installation in the wall of a spa, hot tub, or storable pool.

DRY-NICHE LUMINAIRE. A luminaire intended for installation in the wall of a pool or fountain in a niche that is sealed against the entry of pool water.

FORMING SHELL. A structure designed to support a wet niche lighting fixture assembly and intended for mounting in a pool or fountain structure.

FOUNTAIN. Fountains, ornamental pools, display pools, and reflection pools. The definition does not include drinking fountains.

HYDROMASSAGE BATHTUB. A permanently installed bathtub equipped with a recirculating piping system, pump, and associated equipment. It is designed so it can accept, circulate and discharge water upon each use.

MAXIMUM WATER LEVEL. The highest level that water can reach before it spills out.

NO-NICHE LUMINAIRE. A luminaire intended for installation above or below the water without a niche.

PACKAGED SPA OR HOT TUB EQUIPMENT ASSEMBLY. A factory-fabricated unit consisting of water-circulating, heating and control equipment mounted on a common base, intended to operate a spa or hot tub. Equipment may include pumps, air blowers, heaters, luminaires, controls and sanitizer generators.

PERMANENTLY INSTALLED SWIMMING AND WADING POOLS. Those that are constructed in the ground or partially in the ground, and all others capable of holding water with a depth greater than 42 inches (1067 mm), and all pools installed inside of a building, regardless

of water depth, whether or not served by electrical circuits of any nature.

POOLCOVER, ELECTRICALLY OPERATED. Motor-driven equipment designed to cover and uncover the water surface of a pool by means of a flexible sheet or rigid frame.

SELF-CONTAINED SPA OR HOT TUB. A factory-fabricated unit consisting of a spa or hot tub vessel with all water-circulating, heating and control equipment integral to the unit. Equipment may include pumps, air blowers, heaters, luminaires, controls and sanitizer generators.

SPA OR HOT TUB. A hydro massage pool, or tub for recreational or therapeutic use, not located in health care facilities, designed for immersion of users, and usually having a filter, heater, and motor-driven blower. They are installed indoors or outdoors, on the ground or supporting structure, or in the ground or supporting structure. Generally, a spa or hot tub is not designed or intended to have its contents drained or discharged after each use.

STORABLE SWIMMING OR WADING POOL. Those that are constructed on or above the ground and are capable of holding water with a maximum depth of 42 inches (1067 mm), or a pool with nonmetallic, molded polymeric walls or inflatable fabric walls regardless of dimension.

THROUGH-WALL LIGHTING ASSEMBLY. A lighting assembly intended for installation above grade, on or through the wall of a pool, consisting of two interconnected groups of components separated by the pool wall.

WET-NICHE LUMINAIRE. A luminaire intended for installation in a forming shell mounted in a pool or fountain structure where the luminaire will be completely surrounded by water.

E4102

WIRING METHODS FOR POOLS, SPAS, HOT TUBS AND HYDROMASSAGE BATHTUBS

E4102.1 General. Wiring methods used in conjunction with permanently installed swimming pools, spas, hot tubs or hydro massage bathtubs shall be installed in accordance with Table E4102.1 and Chapter 37 except as otherwise stated in this section. Storable swimming pools shall comply with Section E4107.

E4102.2 Flexible cords. Flexible cords used in conjunction with a pool, spa, hot tub or hydro massage bathtub shall be installed in accordance with the following:

1. For other than underwater luminaires, fixed or stationary equipment, rated at 20 amperes or less shall be permitted to be connected with a flexible cord to facilitate the removal or

disconnection for maintenance or repair. For other than storable pools, the flexible cord shall not exceed 3 feet (914 mm) in length. Cords that supply swimming pool equipment, shall have a copper equipment grounding conductor not smaller than 12 AWG and shall be provided with a grounding-type attachment plug.

2. Flexible cord that is supplied as part of a listed underwater swimming pool lighting luminaire shall be permitted to be installed in any of the permitted wiring methods from the luminaire to a deck box or other enclosure. Splices shall not be made within a raceway. The equipment grounding conductor shall be an insulated copper conductor that is not smaller than the

supply conductors and not smaller than 16 AWG.

3. A listed packaged spa or hot tub installed outdoors that is GFCI protected, shall be permitted to be cord and plug connected provided that such cord does not exceed 15 feet (4572 mm) in length.
4. A listed packaged spa or hot tub rated at 20 amperes or less and installed indoors shall be permitted to be cord and plug connected to facilitate maintenance and repair.
5. For other than underwater and storable pool lighting luminaire, the requirements of Item 1 shall apply to any cord equipped luminaire that is located within 16 feet (4877 mm) radially from any point on the water surface.

TABLE E4102.1
ALLOWABLE APPLICATIONS FOR WIRING METHODS a, b, c, d, e, f, g

WIRING LOCATION OR PURPOSE	AC, FMC, NM, SR, SE ^B	EMT ^C	ENT ^B	IMC, RMC, RNC	LFMC	LFNMC	UF	MC	Flex Cord ^g
Panelboard(s) that supply pool equipment: from service equipment to panelboard	A ^e	A	-	A	-	A	A ^E	A ^E	A
Wet-niche and no-niche luminaires: from branch circuit OCPD to deck or junction box	-	A	A	A	-	A	-	-	-
Wet-niche and no-niche luminaires: from deck or junction box to forming shell	-	-	-	A ^D	-	A	-	-	A
Dry niche: from branch circuit OCPD to luminaires	-	A	A	A	-	A	-	-	-
Pool-associated motors: from branch circuit OCPD to motor	A	A	A	A	A ^F	A ^F	A ^B	A	A
Packaged or self-contained outdoor spas and hot tubs with underwater luminaire: from branch circuit OCPD to spa or hot tub	-	A	A	A	-	A ^F	-	-	A
Packaged or self-contained outdoor spas and hot tubs without underwater luminaire: from branch circuit OCPD to spa or hot tub	A	A	A	A	A ^F	A	A ^F	A ^B	A
Indoor spa and hot tubs, hydromassage bathtubs, and other pool, spa or hot tub associated equipment: from branch circuit OCPD to equipment	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- a. For all wiring methods, see Section E4105.2 for equipment grounding conductor requirements.
- b. Limited to use within buildings.
- c. Limited to use on or within buildings.
- d. Metal conduit shall be constructed of brass or other approved corrosion resistant metal.
- e. Permitted only for existing feeder panelboards where the equipment grounding conductor is insulated or covered.
- f. Limited to use in lengths not to exceed 3 feet at pool, spa or hot tub equipment where flexibility is necessary.
- g. Flexible cord shall be installed in accordance with Section E4102.2.

E4103
EQUIPMENT LOCATION AND CLEARANCES

E4103.1 Receptacle outlets. Receptacle outlets shall be installed and located in accordance with Sections E4103.1.1 through E4103.1.5. Distances shall be measured as the shortest path that an appliance supply cord connected to the receptacle would follow without penetrating a floor, wall, ceiling, doorway with hinged or sliding door, window opening, or other effective permanent barrier.

E4103.1.1 Location. Receptacles that provide power for water-pump motors or other loads directly related to the circulation and sanitation

system shall be permitted to be located between 5 feet and 10 feet (1524 mm and 3048 mm) from the inside walls of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs, and, where so located, shall be single and of the locking and grounding type and shall be protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters.

Other receptacles on the property shall be located not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from the inside walls of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs.

E4103.1.2 Where required. At least one 125-volt 15- or 20-ampere receptacle supplied by a general-purpose branch circuit shall be located a minimum of 10 feet (3048 mm) from and not more

than 20 feet (6096 mm) from the inside wall of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs. This receptacle shall be located not more than 6 feet, 6 inches (1981 mm) above the floor, platform or grade level serving the pool, spa or hot tub.

E4103.1.3 GFCI protection. All 125-volt receptacles located within 20 feet (6096 mm) of the inside walls of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit-interrupter.

E4103.1.4 Indoor locations. Receptacles shall be located not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) from the inside walls of indoor spas and hot tubs. A minimum of one 125-volt receptacle shall be located between 5 feet (1524 mm) and 10 feet (3048 mm) from the inside walls of indoor spas or hot tubs.

E4103.1.5 Indoor GFCI protection. One hundred twenty-five-volt receptacles located within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the inside walls of spas and hot tubs installed indoors shall be protected by ground-fault circuit-interrupters. One hundred twenty-five-volt receptacles located within 5 feet (1524 mm) of the inside walls of hydro massage bathtubs shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit-interrupter.

E4103.2 Switching devices. Switching devices shall be located not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of pools, spas and hot tubs except where separated from the pool, spa or hot tub by a solid fence, wall, or other permanent barrier. Switching devices located in a room or area containing a hydro massage bathtub shall be located in accordance with the general requirements of this code.

E4103.3 Disconnecting means. An accessible disconnecting means to disconnect all ungrounded conductors for all utilization equipment, other than lighting, shall be provided and located within sight from all pools, spas, and hot tub equipment, and shall be located not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) from the inside walls of the pool, spa or hot tub.

E4103.4 Luminaires and ceiling fans. Lighting outlets, luminaires, and ceiling-suspended paddle fans shall be installed and located in accordance with Sections E4103.4.1 through E4103.4.5.

E4103.4.1 Outdoor location. In outdoor pool, outdoor spas and outdoor hot tubs areas, luminaires, lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended paddle fans shall not be installed over the pool or over the area extending 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool except where no part of the luminaire or ceiling-suspended paddle fan is less than 12 feet (3658 mm) above the maximum water level.

E4103.4.2 Indoor locations. In indoor pool areas, the limitations of Section E4103.4.1 shall apply except where the luminaires, lighting outlets and ceiling-suspended paddle fans comply with all of the following conditions:

1. The luminaires are of a totally enclosed type; and
2. A ground-fault circuit interrupter is installed in the branch circuit supplying the luminaires or ceiling suspended (paddle) fans; and
3. The distance from the bottom of the luminaire or ceiling-suspended (paddle) fan to the maximum water level is not less than 7 feet, 6 inches (2286 mm).

E4103.4.3 Existing lighting outlets and luminaires. Existing lighting outlets and luminaires that are located within 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs shall be permitted to be located not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) vertically above the maximum water level, provided that such luminaires and outlets are rigidly attached to the existing structure and ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection is provided for the branch circuit that supplies such luminaires and outlets.

E4103.4.4 Indoor spas and hot tubs.

1. Luminaires, lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended paddle fans located over the spa or hot tub or within 5 feet (1524 mm) from the inside walls of the spa or hot tub shall be a minimum of 7 feet, 6 inches (2286 mm) above the maximum water level and shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

Luminaires, lighting outlets, and ceiling-suspended paddle fans that are located 12 feet (3658 mm) or more above the maximum water level shall not require ground-fault circuit interrupter protection.

2. Luminaires protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter and complying with Item 2.1. or 2.2. shall be permitted to be installed less than 7 feet, 6 inches (2286 mm) over a spa or hot tub.
 - 2.1. Recessed luminaires shall have a glass or plastic lens and nonmetallic or electrically isolated metal trim, and shall be suitable for use in damp locations.

2.2. Surface-mounted luminaires shall have a glass or plastic globe and a nonmetallic body or a metallic body isolated from contact. Such luminaires shall be suitable for use in damp locations.

E4103.4.5 GFCI protection. Luminaires and outlets that are installed in the area extending between 5 feet (1524 mm) and 10 feet (3048 mm) from the inside walls of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs shall be protected by ground fault circuit-interrupters except where such fixtures and outlets are installed not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) above the maximum water level and are rigidly attached to the structure.

E4103.5 Overhead conductor clearances. Except where installed with the clearances specified in Table E4103.5, the following parts of pools and outdoor spas and hot tubs shall not be placed under existing service-drop conductors or any other open overhead wiring; nor shall such wiring be installed above the following:

1. Pools and the areas extending 10 feet (3048 mm) horizontally from the inside of the walls of the pool;

2. Diving structures; or
3. Observation stands, towers, and platforms.

Utility-owned, -operated and -maintained communications conductors, community antenna system coaxial cables and the supporting messengers shall be permitted at a height of not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) above swimming and wading pools, diving structures, and observation stands, towers, and platforms.

E4103.6 Underground wiring. Underground wiring shall not be installed under or within the area extending 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of pools and outdoor hot tubs and spas except where the wiring is installed to supply pool, spa or hot tub equipment or where space limitations prevent wiring from being routed 5 feet (1524 mm) or more horizontally from the inside walls. Where installed within 5 feet (1524 mm) of the inside walls, the wiring method shall be rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit or a nonmetallic raceway system. Metal conduit shall be corrosion resistant and suitable for the location. The minimum raceway burial depth shall be in accordance with Table E4103.6.

**TABLE E4103.5
OVERHEAD CONDUCTOR CLEARANCES**

	INSULATED SUPPLY OR SERVICE DROP CABLES, 0-750 VOLTS TO GROUND, SUPPORTED ON AND CABLED TOGETHER WITH AN EFFECTIVELY GROUNDED BARE MESSENGER OR EFFECTIVELY GROUNDED NEUTRAL CONDUCTOR (feet)	ALL OTHER SUPPLY OR SERVICE DROP CONDUCTORS (feet)	
		Voltage to ground	
		0-15 kV	Greater than 15- to 50 kV
A. Clearance in any direction to the water level, edge of water surface, base of diving platform, or permanently-anchored raft	22	25	27
B. Clearance in any direction to the diving platform	14	17	18
C. Horizontal limit of clearance measured from inside wall of the pool	This limit shall extend to the outer edge of the structures listed in Rows (A) and (B) above but not less than 10 feet.		

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

**TABLE E4103.6
MINIMUM BURIAL DEPTHS**

WIRING METHOD	UNDERGROUND WIRING (inches)
Rigid metal conduit	6
Intermediate metal conduit	6
Nonmetallic raceways listed for direct burial without concrete encasement	18
Other approved raceways ^a	18

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

a. Raceways approved for burial only where concrete-encased shall require a concrete envelope not less than 2 inches in thickness.

E4104
BONDING

E4104.1 Bonded parts. The following parts shall be bonded together:

1. All metallic parts of pool, spa and hot tub structures, including the reinforcing metal of pool, spa and hot tub shells, coping stones, and decks. The usual steel tie wires shall be considered suitable for bonding the reinforcing steel together, and welding or special clamping shall not be required. Such tie wires shall be made tight. Where reinforcing steel is effectively insulated by a listed encapsulating nonconductive compound, at the time of manufacture and installation, it shall not be required to be bonded. Where reinforcing steel is encapsulated with a nonconductive compound, provisions shall be made for an alternate means to eliminate voltage gradients that would otherwise be provided by unencapsulated bonded reinforcing steel.
2. All forming shells and mounting brackets of no-niche luminaires except where a listed low-voltage lighting system is used that does not require bonding.
3. All metal fittings within or attached to pool, spa and hot tub structures. Isolated parts that are not over 4 inches (102 mm) in any dimension and do not penetrate into the pool structure more than 1 inch (25.4 mm) shall not require bonding. The metal bands or hoops used to secure wooden staves for a hot tub or spa shall not be required to be bonded.
4. Metal parts of electrical equipment associated with pool, spa and hot tub water circulating systems, including pump motors and metal parts of equipment associated with pool covers, including electric motors. Metal parts of listed equipment incorporating an approved system of double insulation and providing a means for grounding internal nonaccessible, noncurrent-carrying metal parts shall not be bonded. Where a double-insulated water-pump motor is installed under the provisions of this section, a solid 8 AWG copper conductor that is of sufficient length to make a bonding connection to a replacement motor shall be extended from the bonding grid to an accessible point in the motor vicinity. Where there is no connection between the swimming pool bonding grid and the equipment grounding system for the premises, this bonding conductor shall be connected to the equipment grounding conductor of the motor circuit.

5. Metal-sheathed cables and raceways, metal piping and all fixed metal parts that are within 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally of the inside walls of the pool, spa or hot tub and that are within 12 feet (3658 mm) above the maximum water level of the pool or any observation stands, towers or platforms, or from any diving structures, and that are not separated from the pool by a permanent barrier.

For pool water heaters rated at more than 50 amperes and having specific instructions regarding bonding and grounding, only those parts designated to be bonded shall be bonded and only those parts designated to be grounded shall be grounded.

E4104.2 Parts not required to be bonded. Small conductive surfaces not likely to become energized, such as towel bars, mirror frames, and air and water jets and drain fittings that are not connected to metallic piping, and similar equipment installed on or within indoor spas and hot tubs shall not be required to be bonded.

E4104.3 Methods of bonding. It shall not be the intent to require that the 8 AWG or larger solid copper bonding conductor be extended or attached to any remote panelboard, service equipment, or any electrode, but only that it shall be employed to eliminate voltage gradients in the pool area as prescribed. Bonding shall be accomplished by one or more of the following methods:

1. Common Bonding Grid. The parts specified in Section E4104.1 above shall be connected to a common bonding grid with a solid copper conductor, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG. Connection shall be made by exothermic welding or by pressure connectors or clamps that are labeled as being suitable for the purpose and that are made of stainless steel, brass, copper or copper alloy.

The common bonding grid shall be permitted to be any of the following:

- 1.1. The structural reinforcing steel of a concrete pool where the reinforcing rods are bonded together by the usual steel tie wires made up tight or the equivalent; or
- 1.2. The wall of a bolted or welded metal pool; or
- 1.3. A solid copper conductor, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG.
2. For hot tubs and spas, metal to metal mounting on a common frame or base
3. The interconnection of threaded metal piping and fittings.

E4105 GROUNDING

E4105.1 Equipment to be grounded. The following equipment shall be grounded:

1. Wet-niche, dry-niche and no-niche underwater luminaires other than those low-voltage systems listed for the application without a grounding conductor.
2. All electrical equipment located within 5 feet (1524 mm) of the inside wall of the pool, spa or hot tub.
3. All electrical equipment associated with the recirculating system of the pool, spa or hot tub.
4. Junction boxes.
5. Transformer enclosures.
6. Ground-fault circuit-interrupters.
7. Panelboards that are not part of the service equipment and that supply any electrical equipment associated with the pool, spa or hot tub.

E4105.2 Luminaires and related equipment. Wet-niche, dry-niche, or no-niche luminaires shall be connected to an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with Table E3808.12 but not smaller than 12 AWG. The equipment grounding conductor between the wiring chamber of the secondary winding of a transformer and a junction box shall be sized in accordance with the overcurrent device in such circuit. The junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure in the supply circuit to a wet-niche or no-niche luminaire and the field-wiring chamber of a dry niche luminaire shall be grounded to the equipment grounding terminal of the panelboard. The equipment grounding terminal shall be directly connected to the panelboard enclosure. The equipment grounding conductor shall be installed without joint or splice.

Exceptions:

1. Where more than one underwater luminaire is supplied by the same branch circuit, the equipment grounding conductor, installed between the junction boxes, transformer enclosures, or other enclosures in the supply circuit to wet-niche luminaires, or between the field-wiring compartments of dry-niche luminaires, shall be permitted to be terminated on grounding terminals.
2. Where an underwater luminaire is supplied from a transformer, ground-fault circuit-interrupter, clock-operated switch, or a manual snap switch that is located between the panelboard and a junction box connected to the conduit that extends directly to the

underwater luminaire, the equipment grounding conductor shall be permitted to terminate on grounding terminals on the transformer, ground-fault circuit-interrupter, clock-operated switch enclosure, or an outlet box used to enclose a snap switch.

E4105.3 Nonmetallic conduit. Where a nonmetallic conduit is installed between a wet-niche luminaire and a junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure, a 8 AWG insulated copper conductor shall be installed in this conduit with provisions for terminating in the forming shell, junction box or transformer enclosure, or ground-fault circuit-interrupter enclosure. The termination of the 8 AWG conductor in the forming shell shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a listed potting compound to protect such connection from the possible deteriorating effect of pool water.

E4105.4 Flexible cords. Wet-niche or no-niche luminaires that are supplied by a flexible cord or cable shall have all exposed noncurrent-carrying metal parts grounded by an insulated copper equipment grounding conductor that is an integral part of the cord or cable. This grounding conductor shall be connected to a grounding terminal in the supply junction box, transformer enclosure, or other enclosure. The grounding conductor shall not be smaller than the supply conductors and not smaller than 16 AWG.

E4105.5 Motors. Pool-associated motors shall be connected to a copper equipment grounding conductor sized in accordance with Table E3808.12, but not smaller than 12 AWG.

E4105.6 Panelboards. A panelboard that is not part of the service equipment, or source of a separately derived system shall have an equipment grounding conductor installed between its grounding terminal and the grounding terminal of the applicable service equipment or source of a separately derived system. The equipment grounding conductor shall be insulated, shall be sized in accordance with Table E3808.12, and shall be not smaller than 12 AWG.

E4105.7 Cord-connected equipment. Where fixed or stationary equipment is connected with a flexible cord to facilitate removal or disconnection for maintenance, repair, or storage, as provided in Section E4102.2, the equipment grounding conductors shall be connected to a fixed metal part of the assembly. The removable part shall be mounted on or bonded to the fixed metal part.

E4105.8 Other equipment. Other electrical equipment shall be grounded in accordance with Section E3808.

E4106 EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION

E4106.1 Transformers. Transformers used for the supply of underwater luminaires, together with the transformer enclosure, shall be listed for the purpose. Such transformers shall be of an isolated winding type having a grounded metal barrier between the primary and secondary windings.

E4106.2 Ground-fault circuit-interrupters. Ground-fault circuit-interrupters shall be self-contained units, circuitbreaker types, receptacle types or other approved types.

E4106.3 Wiring on load side of ground-fault circuit-interrupters and transformers. For other than grounding conductors, conductors installed on the load side of a ground-fault circuit-interrupter or transformer used to comply with the provisions of Section E4106.4, shall not occupy raceways, boxes, or enclosures containing other conductors except where the other conductors are protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters or are grounding conductors. Supply conductors to a feed-through type ground-fault circuit interrupter shall be permitted in the same enclosure. Ground-fault circuit interrupters shall be permitted in a panelboard that contains circuits protected by other than ground-fault circuit interrupters.

E4106.4 Underwater luminaires. The design of an underwater luminaire supplied from a branch circuit either directly or by way of a transformer meeting the requirements of Section E4106.1, shall be such that, where the fixture is properly installed without a ground-fault circuit-interrupter, there is no shock hazard with any likely combination of fault conditions during normal use (not relamping). In addition, a ground-fault circuit-interrupter shall be installed in the branch circuit supplying luminaires operating at more than 15 volts, so that there is no shock hazard during relamping. The installation of the ground-fault circuit-interrupter shall be such that there is no shock hazard with any likely fault-condition combination that involves a person in a conductive path from any ungrounded part of the branch circuit or the luminaire to ground. Compliance with this requirement shall be obtained by the use of a listed underwater luminaire and by installation of a listed ground-fault circuit-interrupter in the branch circuit. Luminaires that depend on submersion for safe operation shall be inherently protected against the hazards of overheating when not submerged.

E4106.4.1 Maximum voltage. Luminaires shall not be installed for operation on supply circuits over 150 volts between conductors.

E4106.4.2 Luminaire location. Luminaires mounted in walls shall be installed with the top of the fixture lens not less than 18 inches (457 mm) below the normal water level of the pool, except where the luminaire is listed and identified for use

at a depth of not less than 4 inches (102 mm) below the normal water level of the pool. A luminaire facing upward shall have the lens adequately guarded to prevent contact by any person.

E4106.5 Wet-niche luminaires. Forming shells shall be installed for the mounting of all wet-niche underwater luminaires and shall be equipped with provisions for conduit entries. Conduit shall extend from the forming shell to a suitable junction box or other enclosure located as provided in Section E4106.8. Metal parts of the luminaire and forming shell in contact with the pool water shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal.

The end of flexible-cord jackets and flexible-cord conductor terminations within a luminaire shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a suitable potting compound to prevent the entry of water into the luminaire through the cord or its conductors. In addition, the grounding connection within a luminaire shall be similarly treated to protect such connection from the deteriorating effect of pool water in the event of water entry into the luminaire.

Luminaires shall be bonded to and secured to the forming shell by a positive locking device that ensures a low-resistance contact and requires a tool to remove the luminaire from the forming shell.

E4106.6 Dry-niche luminaires. Dry-niche luminaires shall be provided with provisions for drainage of water and means for accommodating one equipment grounding conductor for each conduit entry. Junction boxes shall not be required but, if used, shall not be required to be elevated or located as specified in Section E4106.8 if the luminaire is specifically identified for the purpose.

E4106.7 No-niche luminaires. No-niche luminaires shall be listed for the purpose and shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of Section E4106.5. Where connection to a forming shell is specified, the connection shall be to the mounting bracket.

E4106.8 Junction boxes and enclosures for transformers or ground-fault circuit interrupters. Junction boxes for underwater luminaires and enclosures for transformers and ground-fault circuit-interrupters that supply underwater luminaires shall comply with the following:

E4106.8.1 Junction boxes. A junction box connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall be:

1. Listed and labeled for the purpose; and
2. Equipped with threaded entries or hubs or a nonmetallic hub listed for the purpose; and

3. Constructed of copper, brass, suitable plastic, or other approved corrosion-resistant material; and
4. Provided with electrical continuity between every connected metal conduit and the grounding terminals by means of copper, brass, or other approved corrosion-resistant metal that is integral with the box; and
5. Located not less than 4 inches (102 mm), measured from the inside of the bottom of the box, above the ground level, or pool deck, or not less than 8 inches (203 mm) above the maximum pool water level, whichever provides the greatest elevation, and shall be located not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) from the inside wall of the pool, unless separated from the pool by a solid fence, wall or other permanent barrier. Where used on a lighting system operating at 15 volts or less, a flush deck box shall be permitted provided that an approved potting compound is used to fill the box to prevent the entrance of moisture; and the flush deck box is located not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) from the inside wall of the pool.

E4106.8.2 Other enclosures. An enclosure for a transformer, ground-fault circuit-interrupter or a similar device connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall be:

1. Listed and labeled for the purpose, comprised of copper, brass, suitable plastic, or other approved corrosion-resistant material; and
2. Equipped with threaded entries or hubs or a nonmetallic hub listed for the purpose; and
3. Provided with an approved seal, such as duct seal at the conduit connection, that prevents circulation of air between the conduit and the enclosures; and
4. Provided with electrical continuity between every connected metal conduit and the grounding terminals by means of copper, brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal that is integral with the enclosures; and
5. Located not less than 4 inches (102 mm), measured from the inside

bottom of the enclosure, above the ground level or pool deck, or not less than 8 inches (203 mm) above the maximum pool water level, whichever provides the greater elevation, and shall be located not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) from the inside wall of the pool, except where separated from the pool by a solid fence, wall or other permanent barrier.

E4106.8.3 Protection of junction boxes and enclosures. Junction boxes and enclosures mounted above the grade of the finished walkway around the pool shall not be located in the walkway unless afforded additional protection, such as by location under diving boards or adjacent to fixed structures.

E4106.8.4 Grounding terminals. Junction boxes, transformer enclosures, and ground-fault circuit-interrupter enclosures connected to a conduit that extends directly to a forming shell or mounting bracket of a no-niche luminaire shall be provided with grounding terminals in a quantity not less than the number of conduit entries plus one.

E4106.8.5 Strain relief. The termination of a flexible cord of an underwater luminaire within a junction box, transformer enclosure, ground-fault circuit-interrupter, or other enclosure shall be provided with a strain relief.

E4106.9 Underwater audio equipment. Underwater audio equipment shall be identified for the purpose.

E4106.9.1 Speakers. Each speaker shall be mounted in an approved metal forming shell, the front of which is enclosed by a captive metal screen, or equivalent, that is bonded to and secured to the forming shell by a positive locking device that ensures a low-resistance contact and requires a tool to open for installation or servicing of the speaker. The forming shell shall be installed in a recess in the wall or floor of the pool.

E4106.9.2 Wiring methods. Rigid metal conduit or intermediate metal conduit of brass or other identified corrosion-resistant metal, rigid nonmetallic conduit, or liquid-tight flexible nonmetallic conduit (LFNC-B) shall extend from the forming shell to a suitable junction box or other enclosure as provided in Section E4106.8. Where rigid nonmetallic conduit or liquid-tight flexible nonmetallic conduit is used, a 8 AWG solid or stranded insulated copper equipment grounding conductor shall be installed in this conduit with provisions for terminating in the forming shell and the junction box. The termination of the 8 AWG conductor in the forming shell shall be covered with, or encapsulated in, a suitable potting compound to protect such

connection from the possible deteriorating effect of pool water.

E4106.9.3 Forming shell and metal screen. The forming shell and metal screen shall be of brass or other approved corrosion-resistant metal. All forming shells shall include provisions for terminating an 8 AWG copper conductor.

E4106.10 Electrically operated pool covers. The electric motors, controllers, and wiring for pool covers shall be located not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) from the inside wall of the pool except where separated from the pool by a wall, cover, or other permanent barrier. Electric motors installed below grade level shall be of the totally enclosed type. The electric motor and controller shall be connected to a circuit protected by a ground-fault circuit-interrupter. The device that controls the operation of the motor for an electrically operated pool cover shall be located so that the operator has full view of the pool.

E4106.11 Electric pool water heaters. All electric pool water heaters shall have the heating elements subdivided into loads not exceeding 48 amperes and protected at not more than 60 amperes. The ampacity of the branch-circuit conductors and the rating or setting of overcurrent protective devices shall be not less than 125 percent of the total nameplate load rating.

E4106.12 Pool area heating. The provisions of Sections E4106.12.1 through E4106.12.3 shall apply to all pool deck areas, including a covered pool, where electrically operated comfort heating units are installed within 20 feet (6096 mm) of the inside wall of the pool.

E4106.12.1 Unit heaters. Unit heaters shall be rigidly mounted to the structure and shall be of the totally enclosed or guarded types. Unit heaters shall not be mounted over the pool or within the area extending 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of a pool.

E4106.12.2 Permanently wired radiant heaters. Electric radiant heaters shall be suitably guarded and securely fastened to their mounting devices. Heaters shall not be installed over a pool or within the area extending 5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally from the inside walls of the pool and shall be mounted not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) vertically above the pool deck.

E4106.12.3 Radiant heating cables prohibited. Radiant heating cables embedded in or below the deck shall be prohibited.

E4106.13 Double insulated pool pumps. A permanently installed pool shall be permitted to be provided with listed cord- and plug-connected pool pumps incorporating an approved system of double insulation that provides a means for grounding only the internal and nonaccessible, noncurrent carrying metal parts of the pump.

E4107 STORABLE SWIMMING POOLS

E4107.1 Pumps. A cord-connected pool filter pump for use with storable pools shall incorporate an approved system of double insulation or its equivalent and shall be provided with means for grounding only the internal and nonaccessible noncurrent-carrying metal parts of the appliance.

The means for grounding shall be an equipment grounding conductor run with the power-supply conductors in a flexible cord that is properly terminated in a grounding-type attachment plug having a fixed grounding contact.

E4107.2 Ground-fault circuit-interrupters required. Electrical equipment, including power-supply cords, used with storable pools shall be protected by ground-fault circuit-interrupters.

E4107.3 Luminaires. Luminaires for storable pools shall not have exposed metal parts and shall be listed for the purpose as an assembly. In addition, luminaires for storable pools shall comply with the requirements of Section E4107.3.1 or E4107.3.2.

E4107.3.1 Fifteen (15) volts or less. A luminaire installed in or on the wall of a storable pool shall be part of a cord and plug-connected lighting assembly. The assembly shall:

1. Have a luminaire lamp that operates at 15 volts or less; and
2. Have an impact-resistant polymeric lens, luminaire body, and transformer enclosure; and
3. Have a transformer meeting the requirements of section E4106.1 with a primary rating not over 150 volts.

E4107.3.2 Not over 150 volts. A lighting assembly without a transformer, and with the luminaire lamp(s) operating at not over 150 volts, shall be permitted to be cord- and plug connected where the assembly is listed as an assembly for the purpose and complies with all of the following:

1. It has an impact-resistant polymeric lens and luminaire body.
2. A ground-fault circuit interrupter with open neutral protection is provided as an integral part of the assembly.
3. The luminaire lamp is permanently connected to the ground-fault circuit interrupter with open-neutral protection.
4. It complies with the requirements of Section E4106.4.
5. It has no exposed metal parts.

**E4108
SPAS AND HOT TUBS**

E4108.1 Ground-fault circuit-interrupters. The outlet(s) that supplies a self-contained spa or hot tub, or a packaged spa or hot tub equipment assembly, or a field-assembled spa or hot tub with a heater load of 50 amperes or less, shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit-interrupter.

A listed self-contained unit or listed packaged equipment assembly marked to indicate that integral ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection is provided for all electrical parts within the unit or assembly, including pumps, air blowers, heaters, luminaires, controls, sanitizer generators and wiring, shall not require that the outlet supply be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

A combination pool/hot tub or spa assembly commonly bonded need not be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter.

E4108.2 Electric water heaters. Electric spa and hot tub water heaters shall be listed and shall have the heating elements subdivided into loads not exceeding 48 amperes and protected at not more than 60 amperes. The ampacity of the branch-circuit conductors, and the rating or setting of overcurrent protective devices, shall be not less than 125 percent of the total nameplate load rating.

E4108.3 Underwater audio equipment. Underwater audio equipment used with spas and hot tubs shall comply with the provisions of Section E4106.9.

**E4109
HYDROMASSAGE BATHTUBS**

E4109.1 Ground-fault circuit-interrupters. Hydro massage bathtubs and their associated electrical components shall be protected in accordance with Section E4108. All 125-volt, single-phase receptacles not exceeding 30 amperes and located within 5 feet (1524 mm) measured horizontally of the inside walls of a hydro massage tub shall be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter(s).

E4109.2 Other electric equipment. Luminaires, switches, receptacles, and other electrical equipment located in the same room, and not directly associated with a hydro massage bathtub, shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of this code relative to the installation of electrical equipment in bathrooms.

E4109.3 Accessibility. Hydromassage bathtub electrical equipment shall be accessible without damaging the building structure or building finish. Ground-fault circuit-interrupter devices shall be located in a readily accessible location for testing purposes. Ground-fault circuit-interrupter devices shall not be installed within the enclosure of the hydromassage tub.

E4109.4 Bonding. All metal piping systems, metal parts of electrical equipment, and pump motors associated with the hydro massage tub shall be bonded together using a copper bonding jumper, insulated, covered, or bare, not smaller than 8 AWG solid.

Metal parts of listed equipment incorporating an approved system of double insulation and providing a means for grounding internal nonaccessible, noncurrent-carrying metal parts shall not be bonded.