

Safety Barrier

What is a safety barrier?

A safety barrier means the assembly of components natural or otherwise, which form the intended barrier to the pool, exclusive of gates or door sets. The safety barrier includes items such as posts and panels, constructed or natural walls, sides of buildings, child-resistant windows, and balustrades on a balcony, where they form part of the intended barrier.

What can I build?

The design and construction of safety barriers must comply with requirements of the [Australian Standards AS1926.1-2012](#). Safety barriers can be constructed using any materials providing they are durable and they comply with the standards. The minimum requirements of a safety barrier and gate are:

- minimum height of 1200mm
- maximum 100mm from ground level
- maximum vertical gaps of 100mm
- gate must open outward from pool and/or spa
- gate must be self-closing
- latch must be at least 1500mm from ground level

Do I need a Building Permit?

Under building legislation in WA, it is compulsory to obtain a Building Permit prior to the installation of any new swimming pool or spa safety barrier.

How long does it take to get a Building Permit?

The *Building Act 2011* sets time frames in which the City has to assess and determine an application for a Building Permit. The applicable timeframe depends on whether the building application is Uncertified or Certified.

It is important that you are aware of allowed time frames prior to lodging your application and that your application documentation is complete.

Should further information be required by the City in order to assess the building application, the applicant may be given up to 21 calendar days in which to provide the outstanding information. If the information is not received within the 21 days, the application may be refused unless a mutual consent has been granted for a further 21 days.

Uncertified Building Applications

An Uncertified Building Application can be submitted for Class 10 structures such as a swimming pool or spa safety barrier.

The City has up to 25 business days from the date of lodgment to assess the application and issue a Building Permit. The required Certificate of Design Compliance will be issued by the City as part of the application process.

Certified Building Applications

A Certified Building Application can be submitted for all Class of structures.

Prior to lodging a Certified Building Application to the City, a private Building Surveying Practitioner would need to be engaged to issue a Certificate of Design Compliance.

The City has up to 10 business days from the date of lodgment to assess the application and issue a Building Permit.

How long until my permit expires?

A Building Permit is generally valid for two years from the date on which it was granted.

If more time is required to complete the building works, you can apply for an extension of time of up to a further six months by making a formal application and paying the prescribed fee.

What happens when I have completed my building works?

The nominated builder on the Building Permit must submit a Notice of Completion BA7 form and a Safety Barrier Inspection Certificate to the City within seven days of completing the prescribed building works.

Building Application Checklist - Safety Barrier

Minimum Information Required	Yes/No
A completed BA1 (certified) or BA2 (uncertified) application form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include all owner's details, construction materials and costings • Signed by Builder • Applicant's contact details • These application forms are available from the City's website www.armadale.wa.gov.au or from the front counter at the City's Administration Office 	
Certificate of Design Compliance (certified application only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be issued by a registered Building Surveying Practitioner 	
Payment of Fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the City's 'Building Services Fees and Charges' information sheet at www.armadale.wa.gov.au – also available from the front counter at the City's Administration Office 	
Building Construction Industry Training Fund (BCITF) levy payment form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required for building works with a value greater than \$20,000 • Must be completed in full and signed • Refer to the City's 'Building Services Fees and Charges' information sheet at www.armadale.wa.gov.au – also available from the front counter at the City's Administration Office 	
Site plan drawn to scale (1:200) showing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of the new structure • Location of all existing structures on the property • Measurement from the boundaries to the proposed structure • Location of septic tanks and leach drains (if applicable) 	
Construction details drawn to scale (1:100) showing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed floor plan and elevations • Cross-section details 	

This information sheet is intended as a guide only. The City disclaims any liability for any damages sustained by a person acting on the basis of this information.

For further information contact **Building Services** on **9394 5000**.