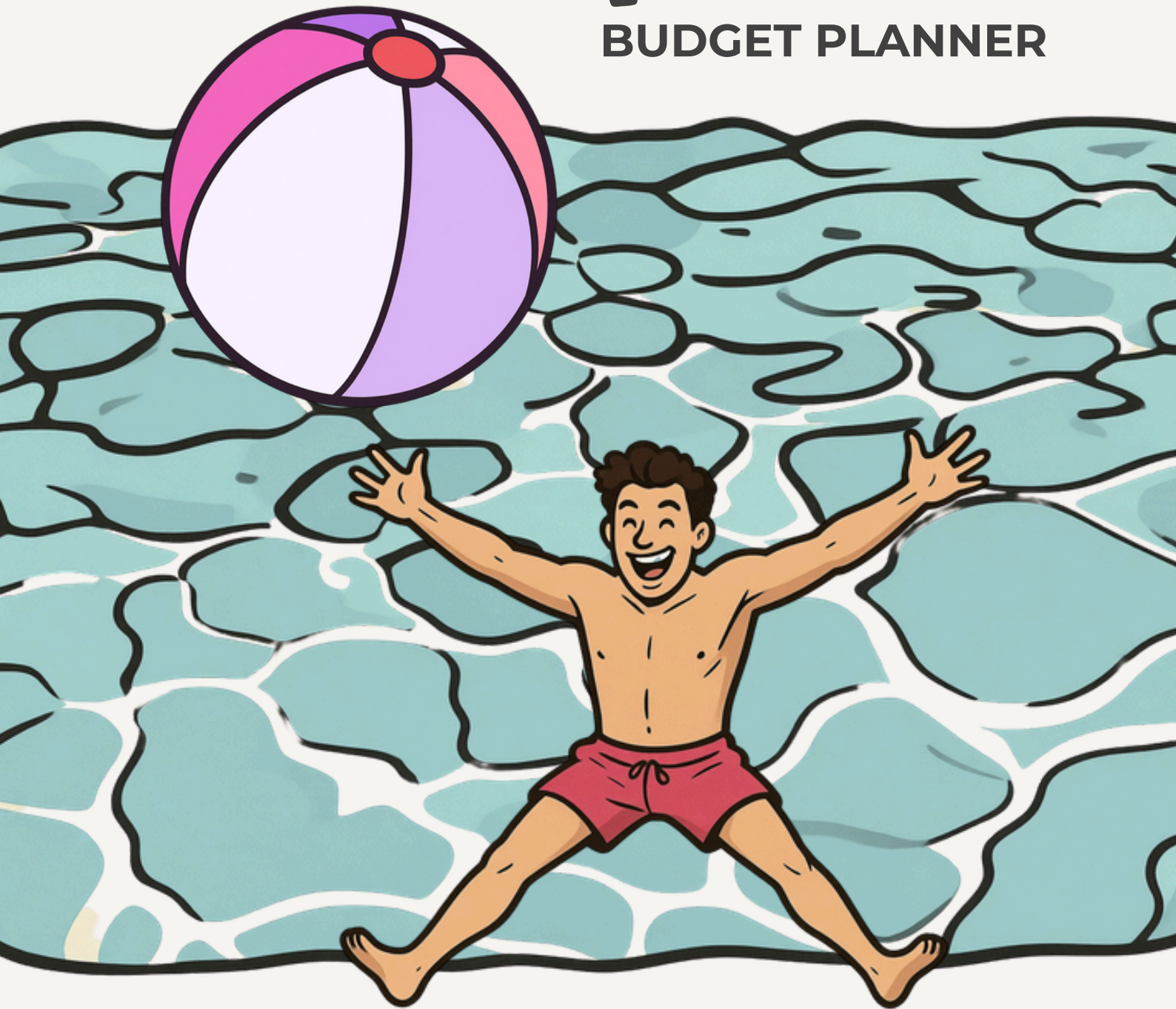


Pool

BUDGET PLANNER



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Take a DIPP[™] sooner with a Drop-In Plunge Pool

Planning for a pool is an exciting journey, but having a clear understanding of the costs involved is essential. This **Pool Budget Planner** is designed to help you track all the necessary expenses, from initial construction to ongoing maintenance. Whether you're dreaming of a simple plunge pool or a luxurious custom design, this planner will guide you through the budgeting process, step by step.

With dedicated checklists covering everything from excavation and equipment to landscaping and safety features, you'll gain a comprehensive overview of your project's financial requirements. The planner can be printed as many times as needed, allowing you to track every stage of your pool's preparation, planning, and construction. It includes an "Estimated Cost" column for forecasting your expenses and an "Actual Price" section to track real costs as your project progresses.

Our goal is to make your pool-building experience as smooth as possible, helping you manage your budget effectively and avoid unexpected surprises along the way.

Overview of the Pool Budget Planner

This planner covers all aspects of pool planning, including:



Pool Design & Construction:

The cost of the pool shell, customisation options, and installation.



Equipment:

Pumps, filters, heaters, and cleaning systems to keep your pool running efficiently.



Safety Features:

Fencing, signage, and any additional safety measures required by Queensland law.



Landscaping & Surroundings:

Decking, paving, plants, and outdoor furniture to enhance your pool area.



Permits & Approvals:

Legal requirements for building and safety certificates.



Ongoing Maintenance Costs:

Water, chemicals, and regular upkeep to keep your pool in pristine condition.

This planner is not only a budgeting tool but also a checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked in your planning process.

We hope this planner helps you achieve the pool of your dreams while staying on budget. Enjoy the process, and don't hesitate to reach out to our team for any further advice or support.

From the DIPP team!



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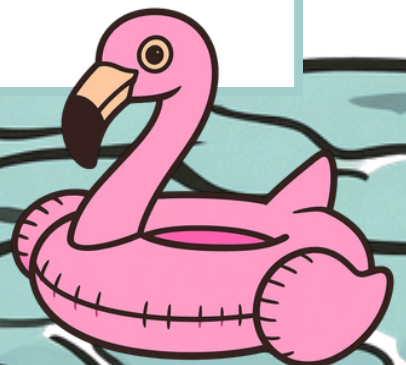
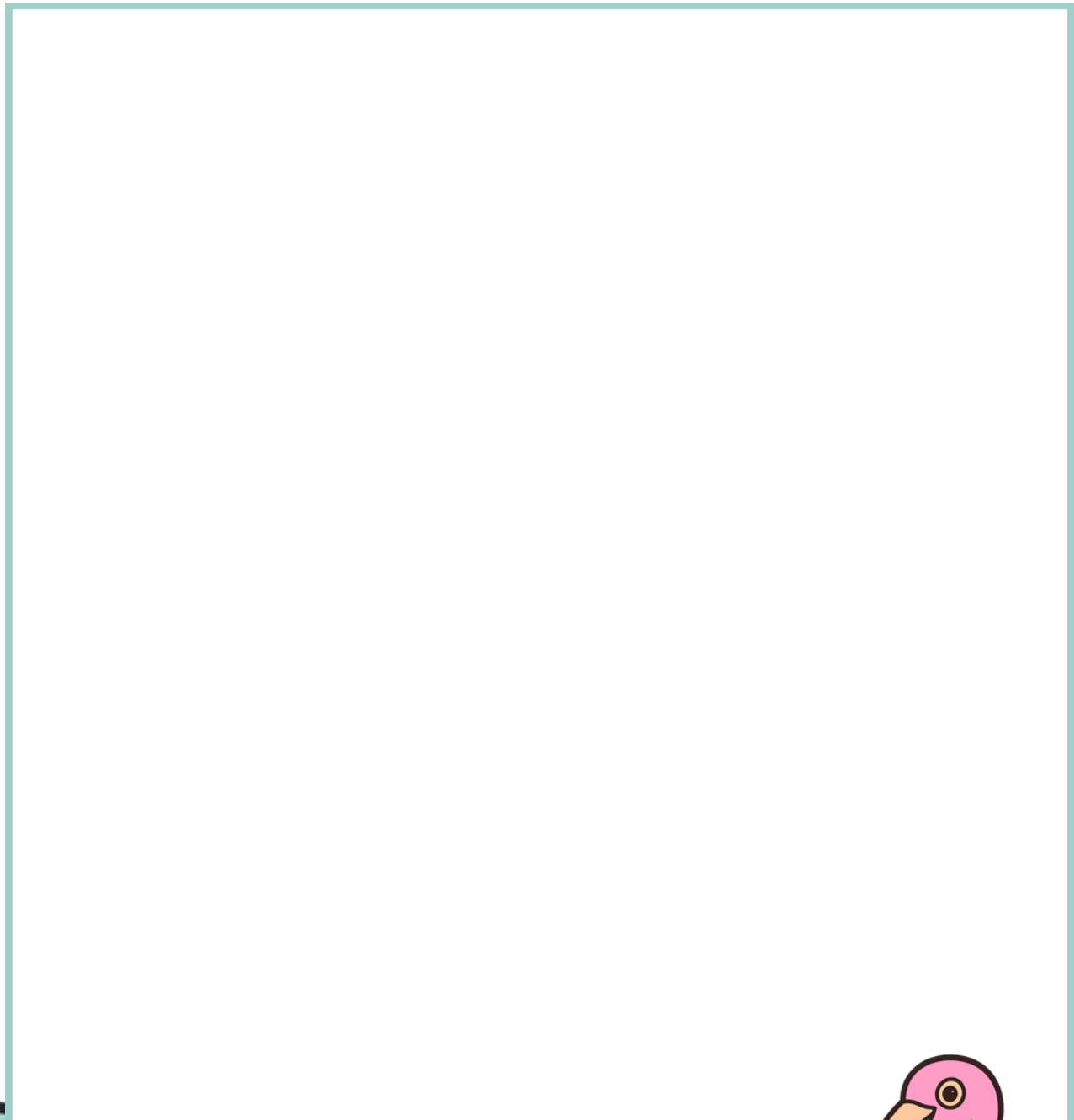
www.getmypool.com

Your Vision Board

This is your space to dream, design, and get creative!

Use this vision board to draw your ideas, attach pictures, or jot down inspirations for your perfect pool. Whether it's your dream layout, landscaping ideas, or tile selections, let your imagination flow. This is the fun part where you can start visualising how your pool and outdoor space will come together to reflect your style and personality.

Feel free to add clippings, sketches, or notes—make it your own!



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Budget Planner

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Pool Design and Construction

Designing and constructing your pool is one of the most exciting parts of the process! This section will help you plan the size, shape, and style of your pool while keeping key factors like your backyard layout and personal preferences in mind. From choosing between an in-ground or drop-in plunge pool to selecting materials and finishes, each decision will shape the final look of your pool. Use this section to guide your budgeting and design choices, ensuring you create a pool that suits your space and lifestyle.

For more information check out these [blogs](#)

To think about

Pool Type:

- Options: Custom freeform, drop-in plunge pool, or other designs.

Pool Size:

- Dimensions: Length, width, and depth.

Pool Shape:

- Options: Rectangular, round, square, or custom.

Customisation:

- Features: Built-in seating, spa integration.
- Tiling: Full-tiled, mosaic, or other options.
- Coping: Stone, tile, or timber edging.

Excavation & Ground Preparation:

- Excavation: Required (yes/no).
- Soil Conditions: Check for rock or clay.
- Levelling: Include retaining walls if needed.

Structural Reinforcement:

- Support: Additional framing (e.g., steel reinforcement for in-ground pools).

Plumbing & Drainage:

- Installation: Skimmer boxes, main drains, jets, filtration placement.

Filtration & Circulation System:

- System: Pump, filter, and automatic cleaner (e.g., robotic).

Heating Options:

- Type: Electric, gas, or solar heating.
- Placement: Location for heating equipment.

Safety Features:

- Fencing: Glass, aluminium; self-closing gates.
- Signage: Pool safety signage (mandatory in [Queensland](#)).

Lighting & Electrical:

- Pool Lights: LED, underwater.
- Power Outlets: For pumps, filters, and heaters.
- Electrical: Installation for automation if needed.

Permits & Approvals:

- Permits: Local council building permits ([QBCC](#)).
- Safety Certificate: Pool safety certificate ([Queensland Gov](#)).

Timeline for Construction:

- Start Date: Set an estimated start date.
- Milestones: Excavation, installation, fencing.
- Completion Date: Ideal project completion.

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)



Equipment

To keep your pool running efficiently and crystal clear, the right equipment is essential.

This section covers the key components you'll need, such as pumps, filters, heaters, and cleaning systems. These systems are the backbone of pool maintenance, ensuring your water stays clean, properly heated, and safe to swim in. Use this checklist to ensure you've accounted for all the necessary equipment and features required to maintain your pool with minimal effort.

[For more information check out these blogs](#)

To think about

Pool Pump:

- Type: Choose pump size and power based on pool size.
- Costs: Include installation fees.

Filtration System:

- Filter Type: Cartridge, sand, or glass; match capacity to pool size.
- Maintenance: Frequency and ease of cleaning.

Pool Heater:

- Type: Electric, gas, or solar; size and efficiency rating.
- Costs: Installation, including solar panels if applicable.

Sanitisation System:

- Type: Chlorine, saltwater, or magnesium.
- Automation: Optional chemical automation system.
- Supplies: Budget for chlorine, salt, or magnesium.

Cleaning Systems:

- Type: Robotic, suction, or pressure-side cleaners.
- Manual Tools: Skimmers, vacuums, and brushes.

Water Circulation:

- Placement: Position inlets, outlets, and jets for flow.
- Automation: Use automated systems for optimal circulation.

Water Treatment:

- Balancing: Use pH chemicals or automatic dosing systems.
- Minerals: Magnesium or other health-beneficial minerals.
- Optional: UV or ozone sanitisation systems.

Pool Cover and Reel (Optional):

- Type: Solar, thermal, or automatic cover.
- System: Include reel system for easy operation.

Automation and Smart Controls (Optional):

- Automation: Control temperature, lights, and filtration via app.
- Timers: Use timers for pumps and heaters to save energy.

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)



Safety Features

Safety is a top priority when installing a pool, and there are strict requirements to ensure pool areas are secure, especially for children. In this section, you'll plan for all necessary safety features, including fencing, self-closing gates, safety signage, and other measures that ensure compliance with local regulations. These features not only keep your pool safe but also help you avoid fines and liability issues. Use this checklist to ensure your pool meets all legal requirements and is a safe, enjoyable space for everyone.

For more information check out these blogs

To think about

Pool Fencing:

- Fence Type: Choose from glass, aluminium, or timber.
- Compliance: Ensure fencing meets height/strength requirements [Queensland Gov.](#)
- Gates: Self-closing/latching gates; remove climbable objects.
- Installation: Include costs and certification by a licensed installer.

CPR and Safety Signage:

- CPR Sign: Clear, easy-to-read CPR signage is required [Queensland Law.](#)
- Placement: Sign must be visible from the pool area.
- Budget: Allow for signage materials and installation costs.

Pool Alarm (Optional):

- Alarm: Consider an entry or gate alarm for added safety.
- Notification: Alerts if someone enters the pool unsupervised.

Safety Barriers:

- Temporary Fencing: Required during pool construction.
- Locks: Install child-proof locks on doors leading to the pool.

Non-Slip Surfaces:

- Paving: Non-slip tiles or paving to prevent accidents.
- Budget: Include costs for materials and installation.

First Aid Kit:

- Stock: Keep a well-stocked first aid kit with essentials like bandages and antiseptic.

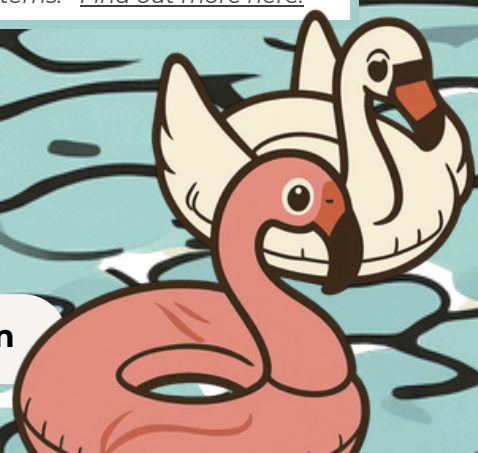
Lighting:

- Visibility: Ensure adequate lighting for night use.
- Safety: Install motion-sensor or pathway lights for added security.

Safety Certification and Inspection:

- Inspection: Schedule to certify pool and fencing compliance [Queensland Gov](#) [QBCC](#).
- Record: Keep certification for future use (e.g., selling or leasing).

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)



Landscaping + Surrounds

Transforming your pool area into a beautiful and functional outdoor space involves thoughtful landscaping and the right surroundings. This section covers all the essential elements, such as decking, paving, plants, and outdoor furniture, that will enhance the overall aesthetic and usability of your pool area. By creating a seamless connection between your pool and its surroundings, you can design a space that not only looks great but is also practical for day-to-day enjoyment. Use this checklist to plan for everything needed to complete your outdoor pool oasis.

For more information check out these blogs

To think about *all optional to offer inspiration!*

Decking:

- Materials: Choose from timber, composite, stone, or tiles.
- Non-Slip Surface: Ensure safety in wet areas.
- Size/Layout: Plan walkways, lounging, or entertaining spaces.
- Maintenance: Budget for long-term care (e.g., sealing timber).

Paving:

- Materials: Concrete, natural stone, pavers, or porcelain tiles.
- Non-Slip: Opt for safe, durable surfaces in high-traffic areas.
- Installation: Include labour and material costs.

Plants and Greenery:

- Pool-Friendly Plants: Choose low-maintenance, non-shedding varieties.
- Privacy: Use plants for natural screening.
- Landscaping: Consider tropical or native plants for low water use.
- Decor: Use decorative pots or built-in planter boxes.

Retaining Walls (If Needed):

- Materials: Timber, stone, or concrete to manage slopes or add aesthetic appeal (may require council approval).

Shade Structures:

- Options: Pergolas, cabanas, umbrellas, or shade sails for sun protection.

Outdoor Furniture:

- Seating: Choose poolside lounges, dining sets, or modular seating.
- Materials: Weather-resistant options like aluminium, teak, or synthetic rattan.
- Storage: Plan for cushion and accessory storage.

Lighting:

- Path Lighting: Use solar or electric lights for walkways.
- Feature Lighting: Highlight trees or architectural features.
- Poolside Lighting: LED or underwater lights for ambiance and safety.

Water Features:

- Types: Waterfalls, fountains, or bubblers for added movement and tranquility.
- Costs: Plan for plumbing and power installation.
- Outdoor Showers: Consider stainless steel fixtures and non-slip tiles for durability.

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)



Permits & Approvals

Before you can start construction on your pool, it's essential to ensure all permits and approvals are in place. For example, in Queensland, strict regulations govern the construction and safety of pools to protect residents, especially children. This section will help you navigate the legal requirements, from obtaining building permits to securing a pool safety certificate. Ensuring compliance with these laws not only helps avoid fines but also guarantees the safety of your pool area. Use this checklist to make sure all the necessary legal steps are covered before and after pool installation.

For more information check out these blogs

To think about

Go through these items with your pool company

Building Development Approval:

- Required: All new pools (in-ground, above-ground, or plunge) need approval from your local council or a private certifier.
- Covers: Location, design, and compliance with safety and construction standards.
- Costs: Application fees and possible amendments during construction.

Pool Fencing Requirements:

- Compliant Fencing: Must meet legal height/strength requirements in Queensland.
- Temporary Fencing: May be needed during construction to prevent accidents.
- Inspection: Fencing must be inspected and certified before the pool is filled.

Pool Safety Certificate:

- Mandatory: Required after pool and fencing completion, issued by a licensed inspector.
- Validity: 1 year for shared pools, 2 years for private pools. Stay up to date to avoid penalties.
- Display: Must be visible when selling or renting the property.

Pool Registration:

- Registration: All pools must be registered (e.g., with QBCC in Queensland). Failure to register may result in fines.
- Check Status: Ensure registration if purchasing a property with a pool.

Environmental Permits (if applicable):

- Water Use/Impact: In some areas, additional permits for water use or environmental impact may be required. Check compliance with local laws.

Inspection and Final Certification:

- Final Inspection: Required after construction to ensure compliance with safety standards.
- Final Certification: Issued once the pool passes inspection.

CPR Signage:

- Required: A CPR sign must be clearly visible near the pool, showing emergency procedures.

Selling or Leasing the Property:

- Compliance: Ensure the pool complies with safety regulations and the pool safety certificate is current when selling or leasing.

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)



Ongoing Maintenance

Owning a pool comes with ongoing maintenance costs to ensure the water stays clean, safe, and enjoyable for swimming year-round. Regular upkeep helps maintain the pool's appearance, extends the lifespan of your equipment, and ensures that the water remains balanced and healthy. This section helps you plan for essential costs such as water, chemicals, equipment maintenance, and other routine tasks that keep your pool in pristine condition.

For more information check out these blogs

To think about

Go through these items with your pool company

Water Costs:

- Initial Fill-up: Budget for filling the pool during installation (thousands of litres, depending on size).
- Evaporation & Top-ups: Factor in water loss due to evaporation. Check local rates [here](#).
- Water Conservation: Use a pool cover to reduce evaporation and save water.

Chemicals for Water Treatment:

- Chlorine/Salt: Regular chlorination or salt additions to sanitise the water.
- pH Balancers: Maintain correct pH to prevent irritation and equipment damage.
- Algaecide: Prevent algae growth, especially in warmer months.
- Shock Treatments: Use chlorine shock for periodic deep-cleaning.
- Mineral Additives: For magnesium or mineral-based pools, additional minerals may be required.

Filtration & Circulation Maintenance:

- Filter Replacement: Replace cartridge filters every 1-2 years, sand filters every 5 years.
- Pump Maintenance: Annual servicing is recommended for efficiency.
- Energy Costs: Budget for electricity to run the pump, heater, and filtration system. Consider energy-efficient options [here](#).

Cleaning Tools & Accessories:

- Robotic Cleaner: Budget for repairs or replacements as needed.
- Manual Tools: Skimmers, vacuums, brushes, and nets for regular cleaning.
- Leaf Catchers: Useful for pools near trees, especially in autumn.

Heater Maintenance:

- Annual Service: Gas, electric, or solar heaters require yearly checks.
- Energy Costs: Pool heating, especially electric or gas, can significantly increase energy bills.

Pool Cover Maintenance:

- Pool Cover: Clean and maintain regularly to prevent wear.
- Cover Reel: Budget for repairs if using an automatic reel.

Inspection and Certification Renewals:

- Safety Inspections: Periodic inspections may be required, especially when renting or selling. Ensure compliance with [Queensland pool safety laws](#).
- Safety Certificate: Renew your certificate as needed, especially if selling or renting ([QBCC](#)).

Repairs & Equipment Replacement:

- Tile/Surface Repairs: Budget for tile or liner repairs over time due to wear.
- Light Replacement: Underwater lights may need periodic replacement.
- Deck Maintenance: Clean and treat decking, especially timber, to avoid rot.

Professional Pool Service (Optional):

- Cleaning Plans: Consider monthly or seasonal professional cleaning services.
- Service Plans: Budget for monthly or quarterly service if outsourcing maintenance.

Please note, the pool company you use may include some of these checklist items. [Find out more here.](#)

