



XL POOLS

Swimming Pool Installation Guide

Thank You

Thank you for downloading this guide from us.

Buying a pool is an investment, so we have written this document to help you understand the process. This document covers building a pool and how we minimise disruption to get your pool built in as little time as possible.

Please read through it carefully as it contains lots of useful information. We have also included lots of photos during the build process so you know what to expect.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.



Building a Pool

Building is quite a fluid process reacting to a number of factors including weather, material curing times and site conditions.

The general process will look something like the following:

1. Site Clearing and Access (a few hours to 1 day)
2. Excavations & Ground Works (1 day - 5 days depending on access)
3. Pool Crane in hold and base (1 day)
4. Plumbing from pool to plant room (1 - 3 days depending on distance to plant room and access)
5. Backfill (1 -3 days depending on site access)
6. Pool room plumbing (1-3 days)
7. Pool wiring (1-2 days)
8. Coping Stone Fitting (1-3 days)

All of the above excludes any optional extras selected and are a rough guide only. It excludes curing times needed on certain materials.

If your pool is an indoor pool then the normal procedure would be for stages 1-2 to be done by your building contractor. Once the foundations for the building are in, Stages 3-5 then takes place by XL Pools with stages 6-7 once the buildings walls and roof have been completed and it is watertight.

Excavation & Soil Away

This is the messiest part of any pool build. We will normally fit in as large

an excavator as possible to speed this process up, right up to a 21 tonne machine. The smallest machine we will normally dig with is 3 tonne unless site conditions are particularly tight.

If you have no where to deposit the soil in your garden we will take the Soil away, this involves bringing a grab lorry to collect from a pile of mud. This is an 18 tonne lorry and very large. We will take away between 6 and 25 lorry loads depending on many factors including soil type, weather conditions and pool size along with if there is any slope to your garden that needs grading out. This will be deposited at the site it is to be collected with a dumper truck. When we excavate soil it has a bulking factor. This means that it expands when it is removed from the hole. To give you an idea of the total amount of soil that will be removed, imagine a pile the height of a double decker bus (although its ferried away as we dig)

If the soil is to be deposited in the garden, we recomend you are around during the excavation period to advise the shape you would like this made into. If you are not there we will use our own judgement and costs will be incurred if you would like this changing at a later date.



Planning Permission and Access

It is your responsibility to ensure all relevant planning permissions and consents have been obtained prior to the start date of your pool. XL Pools can assist with this planning application for a small fee. We would require a copy of this permission for our records,

If we need access through someone's else's land we require written permission from the owner along with a meeting between yourself, the landowner and XL Pools Ltd. We find it is best that you deal with your neighbours to obtain this, as it is your responsibility to have it signed off before work commences. It must be made clear to them the size of vehicles going over their land (see below), and potential damage to the grass. please budget for reinstatement of this.

Your Neighbours

The volume of traffic will increase during your pool building project, with some very large vehicles. As a company, we will post a letter through your nearest neighbour's door to warn them of impending work giving them our contact details should they have any problems.

Services

During the build we will need access to a power supply, a water supply and toilet facilities. If toilet facilities are not available you will note in the contract a cost for Port a-loo hire.

Vehicles, Trailers & Parking

During your pool build there will be between 1-5 vehicles on site. Your project manager will discuss the location for parking. We also have a site trailer that will park on site with our tools for the duration of the job, we will also require a 13amp plug to plug this in to enable us to work.

If you do a school run or need to leave at a specific time each day please advise us so we can ensure that vehicles are not blocking your access.

Our Working Day

Our engineers like an early start ideally and will always aim to be with you between 8/9am and finish around 16.30pm. If your build is slightly further afield we may need to adjust these times. To progress the job further we may also work late, please let us know if this will be a problem.

Fence Removal & Access

Your fencing may need to be removed to gain access to your garden. If the fencing is to be re-fitted or replaced this will be agreed and cost detailed (where applicable) within your contract.

Once the pool is complete, if other contractors require access then the fence can be left removed, however, additional costs will be incurred if you wish us to come back and reinstate.



Problems We Can Encounter

Whilst a survey will have been completed; taking into account visible likely problems, such as electrics, drains, tree's etc.

However during the build process, we may come across unforeseen problems which at the time we will discuss with yourself how to move forward and notify you of any additional costs to rectify.

Additionally we may encounter groundwater. This is seasonal and very variable throughout the country. Until we have excavated we will not know if it is a problem. If the issue is not straight forward, there maybe additional costs approx £2,500 inc VAT.

Soil type will also vary. If, for example, we encounter sand or bedrock then additional costs may be incurred to ensure your pool is installed to it optimum strength. This will normally take the form of additional costs for support of the ground or backfill material. Within your contract we provision for a specific excavation time and average weather conditions, but in exceptional weather conditions then additional costs may be incurred in the form of rescheduling crane hire, transport, additional machinery hire or additional cleaning.

In all outdoor pools, it is important that the area around the pool has proper drainage so that the surrounding ground does not flow water towards the pool (except indoor pools). If this is unavoidable, and in the case of indoor pools, a gully drain along the edge of the coping stones will be necessary. See also notes above about heat pump drainage.

The Day of The Pool Arriving

If you have chosen a one piece pool

This is the most exciting and busiest day on site. It is imperative that no other contractors are on site on this day as its a very time critical and dangerous operation. The pool will arrive either the night before or the morning of delivery on an arctic lorry. It will then be either craned off with a crane mounted to the lorry (when we can get a lorry close to the hole), the excavator (where we can fit a 13-16 tonne digger) or a dedicated crane (where access to the garden is limited). We will often restrict access on the road to your house, for a few hours. Its a good idea to let your neighbours know when this day will be. If we block the road entirely, we will often have to request a road closure from the council.

If you have chosen a concrete or liner pool.

As above, however during your build there will be a few lorries making delivery. Of which some will be concrete/screed lorries, whilst offloading, they may block access. Additional if we are completing the excavation and muck-away.

Back Filling the Pool

After excavation has been completed (either by us or your contractor). We back fill with a dry mix screed concrete. This will be deposited with either a lorry (1 per day) in a large pile, placed on boards in your drive, or a designated suitable area or with a concrete pump (at additional cost) where site access is difficult. Depending on ground conditions this may be needed to be left for a few days before the pool is filled with water.

We require temperatures of 5°+ to work with concrete.

Filling the Pool

For the pool to be full of water, this can take between 3 - 5 days, with normal water pressure. During this time very little can be done on site. A shutoff water valve will be placed on your hose pipe but we ask that you check the fill level twice a day and turn off when the pool is full.

On the initial fill, the pool will look quite dirty, don't worry this is normal and will be vacuumed out by the pool equipment once it is connected. Once the pool is filled, it does pose a safety risk, so children and animals should be kept away until the safety cover (if specified - see contract) has been fitted. The pool should not be used under any circumstances until it has officially been handed over to you.

Coping Stones

Coping stones are laid from each corner of the pool with one or two shorter cut stone in the middle or end of each length.

Patios are always laid off the level of the coping stone. Your patio slabs or concrete bases should not be laid until the coping stones are fitted. It is the person laying the concretes responsibility to ensure no concrete stains the stones or pool.

We strongly recommended that you seal the patio and coping stones around the pool to prevent frost damage. Please ask your paving contractor for this. Please ensure that the sealant is suitable for pool surround as some contain arsenic.



The Plant Room

Plant Room

Once the pool shell is complete, the plant room will be plumbed. Depending on your design, this will either be a new building or an existing.

Where no plant room exists and XL Pools are not installing a plant room ourselves we will supply ducting to run the pipework to the location advised by the installer of the building. We will then return once the building is up to put the plant room in. This room, will need to be a minimum of 2.5m x 1.5m. We need a minimum height of 2.2m (if this is a problem please speak to us). It is best to have a concrete base in the room due to the water and vibrations of pumps. This dimension excludes any air handling equipment on indoor pools.

If XL Pools are installing the plant room, or there is an existing building that it is going into, this will be done at the same time as the shell is installed. Please note, for existing buildings the pipes will be brought up on the outside of the building before entering at right angles and will be visible.

Electrics

The electrical service required for the pool will range from 16 amps depending on the specification of the pool. Unless contracted, we will require the cable (unless contracted or otherwise agreed), to be installed and isolated at the start of the build unless agreed. This will normally be an armored cable and must be protected by a 30ma Class D RCD along with a IP65 Rotary Isolator Switch. All electrics within the plant room area should be a minimum of IP55 to protect against water ingress. Please ensure your contractor is aware of these requirements.

Drainage

The pool will require a drain capable to taking 20m³ an hour (standard pump) 30m³/h with an eco pump. Alternatively, the water could be spread on a large area of grass to soak in. This will be used on a periodic basis 1 weeks to backwash (clean out the filters). This can either be connected to a hose or if

quoted for connected by pipe to a drain. We also offer systems to recycle the water back into the pool if required, at an additional cost. This drainage should not be allowed to flow into a septic tank or reed drainage system. A separate drain should be provided near the pool for the sump pump if required and one for the condensate if a heat pump is fitted.

Waste Water

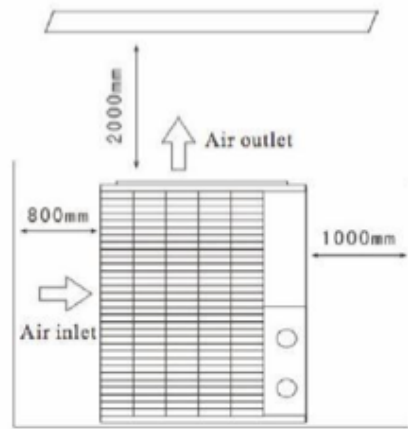
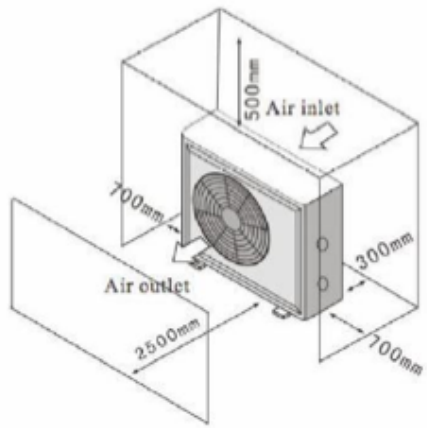
The pool will require a drain in the plant room capable to taking 20m³ an hour (standard pump) 30m³/h eco pump. Alternatively, this could be spread on a large area of grass to soak in. This will be used on a periodic basis 1-2 weeks to backwash (clean out the filters) This can either be connected to a hose or if quoted for connected by pipe to a drain. We also offer systems to recycle the water back into the pool if required. This drainage should not be allowed to flow into a septic tank or reed drainage system.

Water Supply

It is always useful to have a water supply inside or just outside of the plant room for maintenance and cleaning. If you have specified auto topup this will be required by a 22mm blue pipe inside the plantroom.

Heat Pump

If you are having a heat pump installed as part of your package this will require a free air space around it as seen in the diagram below. The heat pump will also naturally produce a small amount of water from condensation. It is advised that a small soak away it put by the heat pump in the form of a strip of gravel to allow this water to drain away.



Reinstatement

Building a pool involves a lot of construction which can create mess. We fence off the area of your garden at the start to ensure the building work stays within the build area. We will tidy up as we go and ensure rubbish is removed. The biggest problem is always the amount of mud that is created, especially when it rains. This is something we do not have control over.

Unless agreed within your contract, we do not re-instate lawns or areas used for moving soil or areas out of the defined pool area. Please speak with your project manager regarding defining these areas within your garden.

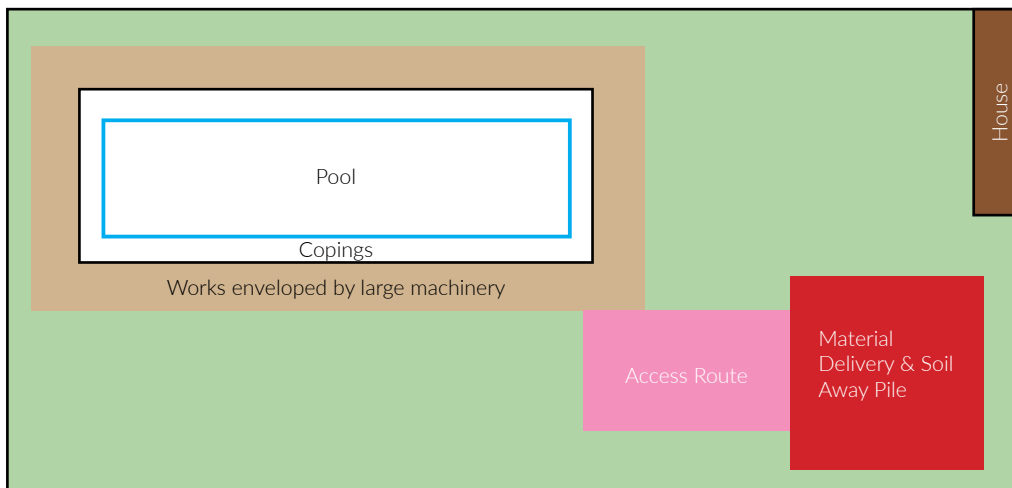
Once we have finished, if you continue to use contractors near the pool, please be aware that any debris, mud, and mess will result in the pool needing to be cleaned/backwashed at your cost.

Final payment is due at pool handover. Handover of the pool is a training session with you and those who will be maintaining the pool, as to how to operate the pool and look after the water within. If you have paid for additional protection for the pool whilst other building works are going on around the pool, we will also give it a full clean and service so it is ready to use once it has been unwrapped.

We offer pool cleaning for your pool. As a minimum, we strongly recommend that we winterise your pool, as this is a very different process to a regular pool that many maintenance companies are not familiar with, and failure to carry out properly can irreparably damage the pool.

The works area around the pool will be defined as follows:

Example Visual Representation of Potential Defined Areas During a Pool Build



XL Pools Responsibilities

Pool

Copings

Worked in Areas Not Reinstated by XL Pools *

Works enveloped by large machinery

Access Route

Material Delivery & Soil Away Pile

* Unless otherwise stated in your contract



Thank You

We look forward to working together and building you a luxurious swimming pool!





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