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FENCING

SPECIALISTS

**POOL
BARRIER**

CODE REQUIREMENTS

**SOUTHERN NEVADA STANDARD
POOL BARRIER REQUIREMENTS**

ISPSA AMENDMENTS



MINIMUM BARRIER HEIGHTS



RESIDENTIAL POOL BARRIERS

- The barrier must be a minimum 60 inches high measured on the side away from the pool.
- OR an 8-foot non-climbable barrier measured on the inside may be permitted in some jurisdictions.

COMMERCIAL OR PUBLIC POOL BARRIERS

- Commercial pools are commonly required to have 60"-72" barriers depending on jurisdiction and occupancy classification. Clark County requires public pools and spas to have a barrier not less than 72" above grade
- Maximum clearance at bottom of barrier is 4 inches maximum between grade and bottom of fence. Opening must prevent passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere.

WROUGHT IRON

- Vertical pickets spaced so a 4 inches sphere cannot pass
- Horizontal members spaced less than 45 inches apart require reduced opening sizes of less than or equal to 1 3/4" to prevent climbing

CHAIN LINK

- Mesh larger than 2 1/4" (standard chain link) must use slats or inserts to reduce to $\leq 1\ 3/4"$. Using the 1 3/4" spec is good practice.
- Minimum 11-gauge wire
- Must include top and bottom horizontal supports

DIAGONAL & HORIZONTAL MEMBERS

- Openings no greater than 1 3/4 inches
- Must be oriented so they are not climbable (e.g., on pool side).

GATE REQUIREMENTS

CRITICAL INSPECTION ITEM

1. Be self-closing
2. Be self-latching
3. Swing away from the pool area
4. Have no device that obstructs closure

LATCH PLACEMENT

One of the following must apply:



1. LATCH RELEASE LOCATED ON POOL SIDE

Between 3" and 6" from top of gate and have no openings greater than 1/2" within 18" of latch



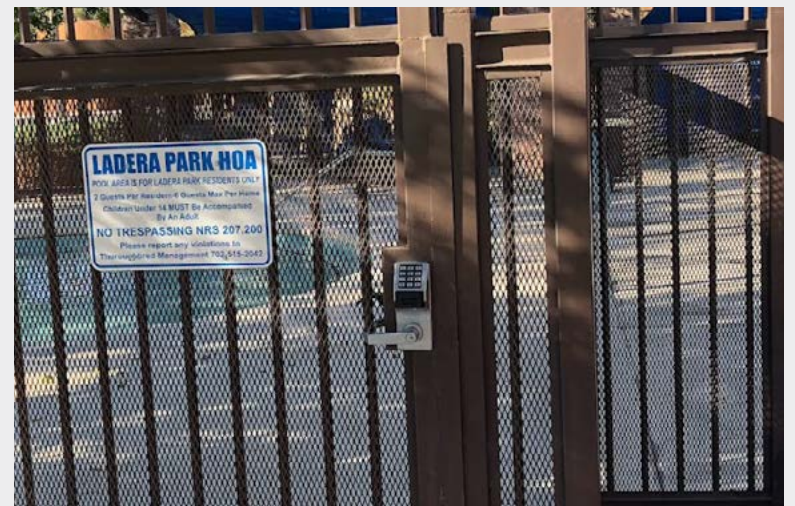
2. KEY-OPERATED SELF-LATCHING LOCK

Must not interfere with required self-latching function and must comply with egress safety requirements.



3. APPROVED SAFETY LATCHING DEVICE

Must be compliant with applicable ASTM/UL standards



THE BIG CHANGE

NEW CODE EDITIONS ARE NOW THE STANDARD

Clark County adopted the 2024 International Codes and the 2024 ISPSC on July 15, 2025, and they become enforceable for permits submitted on or after: **JANUARY 11, 2026**

THAT MEANS PROJECTS MOVING FORWARD ARE REVIEWED UNDER:

2024 IBC / IRC

2024 ISPSC *International Swimming Pool & Spa Code*

2024 IECC *Energy*

2023 NEC *Electrical with Southern Nevada amendments*

POOL FENCE WORK IS THE #1 AREA FENCE CONTRACTORS MUST WATCH

Even if “it’s just a fence,” pool barriers are treated differently than standard perimeter fencing.

Clark County pool barrier basics still include:

- *Minimum 5-foot height*
- *Must fully enclose the pool*
- *Gates must be self-closing + self-latching*
- **RESIDENTIAL:** *outside, non-self-locking latch release minimum 54 inches*
- **PUBLIC:** *outside, non-self-locking latch release 52–54 inches.*

Why it matters now:

The updated 2024 ISPSC may include tighter technical rules about:

- *Climb-resistant design*
- *Opening limitations*
- *Gate swing direction*
- *Barrier spacing*
- *Door alarms (if the house forms part of the barrier)*

Even small changes can fail inspection.

PERMITTING & INSPECTIONS WILL TIGHTEN

Fence contractors need to know:

- *Pool fencing is not exempt from permit scrutiny*
- *Inspectors will enforce barrier rules strictly because of drowning liability*
- **Practical takeaway:** *Don’t assume “no permit needed” just because it’s a fence.*

LIABILITY RISK IS HIGHER THAN REGULAR FENCE JOBS

Pool barriers are one of the most litigated fence categories. If your fence:

- *Doesn't self-latch correctly*
- *Has climbable rails*
- *Has gaps too large*
- *Doesn't meet updated ISPSC rules*

...the contractor can get pulled into injury claims.

Code compliance is your legal shield.

YOUR SALES + ESTIMATING TEAM NEEDS UPDATED LANGUAGE

Quotes and contracts should now clearly state:

- *Pool fence will meet Clark County Title 30 + ISPSC 2024*
- *Gate hardware must remain operational*
- *Owner is responsible for maintaining self-closing/latching devices*

This avoids "but it passed last year" arguments.

HARDWARE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

Expect inspectors to focus on:

- *Self-closing hinges*
- *Magnetic/self-latching locks*
- *Minimum latch height*
- *Gate swing outward from pool*
- *No double-key deadbolts (safety issue)*

Fence companies should standardize approved pool gate kits.

TRANSITION JOBS NEED SPECIAL ATTENTION

Projects submitted before Jan. 11, 2026 may still fall under the older 2018 codes. So your PMs need to ask: **"WHICH CODE CYCLE IS THIS PERMIT UNDER?"**

That affects:

- *Fence height*
- *Gate specs*
- *Inspection checklist*

COMMERCIAL VS RESIDENTIAL WILL DIVERGE MORE

The updated 2024 IBC/IRC separation means:

- *Residential pool fences may be reviewed under IRC + ISPSC*
- *Commercial pools may trigger ADA + IBC + ISPSC*

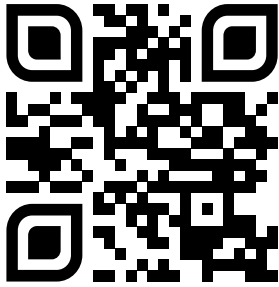
Fence contractors doing HOAs, apartments, hotels need to confirm which applies.

WHAT FENCE COMPANIES SHOULD DO RIGHT NOW

If I were running fencing ops in Clark County, I'd implement:

- *Updated internal pool fence standard detail sheet*
- *Gate hardware checklist for inspectors*
- *Code-cycle question on every estimate*
- *Training for installers on latch height + spacing*
- *Contract language update for pool barrier compliance*

**LEARN MORE
SCAN HERE**



BOTTOM LINE

The “effective change” isn’t that fences suddenly became different overnight...

*It’s that starting Jan. 11, 2026, Clark County inspectors will enforce pool barriers under the 2024 ISPSC, and fence companies need to be aligned or risk: **FAILED INSPECTIONS, REWORK COSTS, PERMIT DELAYS, AND LIABILITY EXPOSURE***

