



Wise up to water safety

Everything you need to know about keeping your children safe around water in the garden.

**Remember – tragedies can be prevented.
Always watch children around water.**



If you own a swimming pool, paddling pool or hot tub, take a moment to **WALK** through our simple guidance to #splashsafely

A child can drown in just a few inches of water within seconds, often silently and without a splash, but by taking a few simple steps you can greatly reduce the risk of accidents.

Walk the boundaries

Make sure you have fences around any water area in your garden

Avoid tripping hazards

Keep any water area in your garden tidy and safe from toddling feet

Learn to swim

It's never too early to enrol children in swimming lessons

KeeP watching

Children should always be supervised around water

Remember – **never leave children unattended around water.**
Not even for a second.



Boundaries/fencing

Residential swimming pools should have boundaries or fencing which:

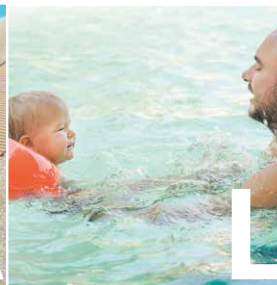
- Should be at least 1.2meters high
- Should not be accessible from underneath – children can squeeze through very small gaps!
- Should remain closed and not be propped open, with self-closing and self-latching gates
- Should not be accessible to unaccompanied children

Drain paddling pools when not in use and cover hot tubs and garden ponds securely if fencing isn't an option.

Think neighbour – make sure your garden fences are secure so toddling feet can't wander into a neighbouring garden, which may have a pond or pool.

Keeping pools, ponds and tubs secured is crucial but there are other precautions you can take to keep your children safe around water.

- Slipping on wet surfaces by the pool is just as dangerous as the water itself so teach children to walk not run.
- Keep swimming pool areas free from tripping hazards.
- Always remain vigilant – drowning can be silent and happen very quickly.
- It's never too early to learn to swim – even if they can't walk getting babies and toddlers used to water is a good first step.
- When not in use, keep your pool clear of toys that could attract a child's attention.



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