



Standard Specification for Aboveground Portable Pools for Residential Use¹

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INTRODUCTION

This specification has been developed to address the risk of drowning and other hazards associated with portable pools. Portable pools—including “self-rising,” “soft-sided self-rising,” “frame pools,” “big blue pools,” “inflatable,” or “inflatable top ring” pools—reemerged in the market in the 1990s. To date, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has reports of nearly 100 portable pool drowning deaths and submersions from 2000 through 2006. Most of these incidents involve children younger than four years of age. In 2005, there were 32 portable pool drowning deaths and 7 additional submersion incidents reported to the Commission. This is nearly triple the number of drowning and submersion incidents the previous year. Further, it is likely that these numbers are undercounts as the CPSC had not previously distinguished among pool types in its database. This specification has been developed by ASTM International in response to this emerging hazard.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification provides safety and performance requirements for portable pools for residential use.

1.2 This specification addresses pool hazards including childhood drowning, sanitation, electrical safety, and entrapment.

1.3 This specification covers both portable pools that are designed to be used with pumps and filters and those not designed to be used with pumps and filters.

1.4 This specification covers all types of portable pools with a water depth of less than 36 in. (91 cm). Aboveground/on ground residential swimming pools with a water depth of 36 in. (91 cm) or greater shall comply with ANSI/APSP-4.

1.5 This specification does not cover public pools, pools used in commercial amusement parks, water fountains, water displays, or fish ponds.

1.6 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.7 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the*

responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

F963 Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety

F1346 Performance Specification for Safety Covers and Labeling Requirements for All Covers for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs

2.2 ANSI Standards:³

ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs

ANSI Z535.4 American National Standard for Product Safety Signs and Labels

ANSI/APSP-4 American National Standard for Aboveground/On-Ground Residential Swimming Pools

ANSI/APSP-7 American National Standard for Suction Entrapment Avoidance in Swimming Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs and Catch Basins

ANSI/APSP-16 American National Standard for Standard Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs

ANSI/IAF-8 Model Barrier Code for Residential Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.60 on Portable Pools.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.