



Essential Components for Pool Plan Review

1. Structural Specifications

These details explain how the pool shell is physically built:

- **Shell Composition:** Specifics on materials, such as shotcrete or gunite thickness.
- **Steel Schedule:** Reinforcing steel (rebar) size, spacing, and frequency.
- **Cross-Sections:** A "cut-away" side view showing pool depths, wall slopes, and floor thickness.

2. Mechanical & Plumbing Details

The "guts" of the pool must be clearly mapped and drawn to scale:

- **Equipment Layout:** Precise location of the pump, filter, heater, and chemical feeders relative to property lines.
- **Plumbing Schematic:** A diagram, drawn to scale, showing pipe sizes, valves, flow meters, and the routing of recirculation lines.
- **Anti-Entrapment Compliance:** Manufacturer specs for main drain covers and vacuum relief systems to prevent suction accidents.

3. Electrical & Bonding

Safety from electrical shock is a high priority:

- **Bonding Grid:** Details on how the pool shell, deck, and equipment are electrically bonded.
- **Utility Clearances:** Proof of clearance from overhead or underground power lines.
- **Panel Capacity:** Calculations showing your home's electrical service can handle the new equipment load.

4. Site & Safety Features

The environment surrounding the pool:

- **Barrier/Fence Plan:** Specifics on fence height (typically 48"+), gate latching mechanisms, and door alarms for the house.
- **Decking & Drainage:** Material types, slope direction for water runoff, and deck dimensions.
- **Setbacks:** Exact distances, drawn to scale, from the water's edge to property lines, easements, and the main house.

Inspections

Once your pool permit is approved, the construction process is punctuated by a series of mandatory inspections. These typically occur just before a major step is "covered up" (like pouring concrete) to ensure everything hidden underground or behind walls meets safety standards.

The typical inspection stages are: (Note that additional inspections may be required)

1. Structural & Steel Inspection

This occurs after the hole is excavated and the reinforcing steel (rebar) is installed, but **before** the concrete or gunite is sprayed.

- **Rebar Spacing:** Inspectors verify that the steel is spaced and sized according to the approved engineering plans.
- **Bonding Grid:** They check that the # 8 AWG solid copper wire is correctly attached to all metal components (rebar, light niches, ladders) to create a safety grounding ring.

2. Plumbing & Pressure Test

This inspection happens while the plumbing lines are still exposed in the trenches.

- **Pressure Hold:** Pipes must be pressurized (to 35 PSI or higher) to prove there are no leaks before they are buried.
- **Main Drain Compliance:** Verification that anti-entrapment drain covers and suction systems are to be installed.

3. Electrical Bonding & Conduit

This stage may be combined with the steel inspection or done separately before the equipment is wired.

- **Equipotential Bonding:** A second look at the bonding of the pool deck and equipment pad.
- **Conduit Run:** Inspectors check the depth and placement of electrical conduits for pool lights and pump power.

4. Pre-Deck / Deck Bonding

Before the concrete deck is poured, an inspector must verify the safety of the area surrounding the pool:

- **Deck Bonding:** Ensuring the rebar or mesh in the deck is tied into the pool's bonding grid.
- **Gas Line Test:** If you have a gas heater, the gas line is pressure-tested and inspected at this stage.

5. Final Safety Inspection

This is the final hurdle before you are legally allowed to fill the pool and swim.

- **Barriers & Alarms:** The most critical check inspectors verify fence height (usually 48"+), self-closing/self-latching gates, and door/window alarms for any house access.
- **GFCI Protection:** Final verification that all electrical circuits and pool lights are protected by working Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters.
- **Compliance with Plans:** Confirming the final build matches the original setbacks and equipment layout approved in the permit.