# Selecting A Swimming Pool Builder

There are many good pool builders in the Dallas/ Fort Worth Metroplex area. Choosing the right one for you is important. You can rid yourself of a car that is a "lemon", but you are stuck with a pool that is a "lemon". If you cannot afford the type of pool or the builder of your choice, maybe you should wait until you can, instead of rushing into it for the sake of owning a pool. It will be in your backyard for a long time. It is critical to select the right builder to ensure a quality pool. The following are some areas that you should consider when selecting a pool builder.

# What kind of reputation do they have?

When choosing a pool builder it is essential that you have complete confidence in the company. Will your pool be constructed properly? Will your pool include that latest innovations for lasting beauty and durability? Does the pool company have the financial strength to guarantee its workmanship? Will the company be around when you need service in a year, five years, or a decade from now? It is astounding how many pool companies have come and gone over the years, and how few companies have stood the test of time and can assure you get a premium quality pool with a long term commitment to your satisfaction. One mistake we see is purchasing a pool from a company that does not have an in-house service department. When a problem arises, most builders and companies without an in-house service department are a lot more difficult to get repairs and maintenance done.

# How much experience do they have?

The experience level of the pool company selected is very important. Proper knowledge of construction techniques will ensure a top quality pool. The quality of a pool is measured in direct relationship to the person who is in charge of its construction. Quality subcontractors are not enough. The builder must have substantial knowledge of pool construction to know where problems can occur. An experienced construction superintendent can recognize potential building defects. Past experience gives him the knowledge to prevent major problems before they occur.

#### Are they a stable company?

Stability is probably the most important part of the selection process. Do not assume that all pool builders are financially stable. We suggest calling the bank and the insurance company of the pool builder (you can also call the Better Business Bureau and the National Spa and Pool Institute). We would also suggest visiting with and viewing the pools of people that are references of the company. Ask to view pools that are older as well so you can determine the durability of the pools built by the company. Financial responsibility also includes carrying the proper insurance. Homeowners are ultimately responsible for any personal injury of construction workers or lawsuits due to subcontractors' negligence. If the selected company does not have proper insurance it can leave a consumer open to tremendous liability.

### How much do they charge?

One of the biggest mistakes that we see within the pool industry is basing everything on price, instead of options that the client needs We constantly hear from pool owners that they wish that they had some option on their pool, but their pool builder did not make them aware that it was available. Although price is important, be sure to select a pool builder that will let you know what options are available for your pool. It would be like buying a car without an air conditioner. Even if the car is cheaper, you did not get what you wanted. We have heard many people say that they wish they would have spent the extra money up front, but very seldom have we heard the opposite.

# Can they provide service after the sale?

The ability of the selected pool company to provide the consumer with technical support and service of the pool after the sale is very important. Consumers always have questions even with the most professionally built, high quality pools. If the company you choose cannot provide the answers to your questions, it can spoil the pleasure of owning a pool.

As difficult as it is to make a large purchase such as a swimming pool, we would suggest that you find a company that you trust, and work with them to design a quality swimming pool that will provide many years of enjoyment.

#### Note:

-The information in this brochure is true and complete to the best of our knowledge, but without guarantee on the part of Gohlke Pool Supply, Inc., and Gohlke Custom Pools, Inc., or on the part of any of its employees who disclaim all liability incurred with the use of this information.

-Always follow label directions and manufacturer's instructions for each product used.

COPYRIGHT 2015 Gohlke Pool Supply, Inc. and Gohlke Custom Pools, Inc.