

# Considering A Swimming Pool?

There are many things to consider when thinking about pool ownership.

A swimming pool is definitely not for everyone, and we do not believe that everyone should have a swimming pool. Owning a swimming pool is a commitment, much like having a motor home, boat, or lake house. For many pool owners, it is hard for them to consider not having a swimming pool. We have clients that build swimming pools every time they move. On the other hand, there are pool owners that would probably be better off without a swimming pool. Not taking the time to enjoy or maintain, pools are the primary reason that some people are simply better off without a swimming pool

Following are some pros and cons of pool ownership:

## *Pros*

### **Family**

This is the main reason that most people consider a swimming pool. Being able to enjoy family activities at home goes a long way with most of us.

### **Lifestyle**

Relaxing by the pool is another common reason that pools continue to be popular. Poolside reading and meditating are popular activities that are usually not considered when purchasing a pool. These activities are actually very popular once the pool is installed

### **Health**

This has become an increasingly popular reason to own a swimming pool.

Lap pools and water aerobics are very common, but there are also medical benefits. A few of these include weight control and heart and lung conditioning.

### **Convenience**

Being able to stay home to beat the heat is much more desirable than having to get in the car to go to another location to enjoy a swimming pool. Nothing satisfies the mind and body more than a refreshing dip in the pool on a hot day after mowing or working on the yard.

### **Entertaining**

Backyard cookouts become even better when you have a pool to keep the guest entertained. In addition, celebrating birthday parties, anniversaries, holidays, you name it. There is no better place to celebrate a special occasion than poolside.

### **Aesthetics**

Pools have evolved into being the centerpiece of the backyard. From waterfalls to dark bottom pools, today's consumers are adding the natural look to their backyard by creating a tropical paradise right at home.

## *Cons*

### **Time**

It is no secret that pools require attention and time. We try to tell people that if they can't afford at least one hour per week towards their pool, then they probably do not have enough time for a pool. It simply doesn't make sense to have something you don't have time to use, or care for. In the fall when the leaves are falling it takes more than one hour per week. If you do not enjoy taking care of your yard, you will

probably not enjoy taking care of a swimming pool.

### **Financial**

There are several costs of owning a swimming pool. Typically pools are financed. Loaning \$25,000 at 9% for 15 years creates a monthly payment of approximately \$250 per month. In addition, monthly chemical and utility costs (electricity and water) are approximately \$75 for the average-sized residential pool. That makes the cost approximately \$325 per month. If you do not use the pool, or could use the money elsewhere, then purchasing a swimming pool is probably not a wise financial move.

### **Lifestyle**

We often hear the comment "if I had a pool, then I would be home more or I would exercise." If you really believe that you would, you might be correct. Most of the time getting a pool does not change your lifestyle any more than buying a pair of running shoes makes you a runner. Sometimes it does, but is not the case most of the time.

### **Note:**

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