



OTTAWA INGROUND POOL BUILDER CHECKLIST

Pool Builder Company Name: _____

Part 1: Standard Information on the Business and Experience

Make sure the company is licensed and insured (check if the name matches. If not, ask why)

Number of years the pool builder has been operational*.

Total Number of pools installed (Company lifetime).

Number of pools installed last year.

How many references can you provide from last years clients?

** close to half of new contractors fail and close shop in the first 5 years.*

Part 2: Reference Check Time

Get them to provide you with as many references as possible. If that number is below half of the number they installed last year, this would be a cause for concern. We suggest you speak to at least 3-5 references.

Would you use the same pool builder if you could start all over again?

What did you like the most about working with X?

What did you like the least about working with X?

Describe your swimming pool with accessories, size, shape, ect.

If you could change anything, what would it be?

When problems and challenges occurred, how were they handled?

Finally, do a quick check online to see how the reviews are for each builder you are considering. A minimum of 2 good reviews against every bad one is a minimum. Also, look at how they handle the back reviews.



Part 3: Products Used By Pool Builder

You have to make sure you are comparing apples with apples. Do ask about the products used in your pool and you can always do more research using the table below.

The products the pool builder uses have good reviews in the marketplace. (Pump, Filter, Salt Water System, Heater, etc).

The customer references you called gave the products used by the builder positive ratings.

The products are backed by competitive warranties.

Part 4: Workmanship Warranty & Installation Practices

Installing an inground swimming pool involves lots of labor. So what kind of re-assurance do you have on the quality of the work being done on your pool? Do ask about workmanship warranty and you can use this grid to get the answers to very important questions.

What is the duration of the swimming pool builder's workmanship warranty?

What specifically does the pool builder's workmanship warranty cover?from the competition?

What happens in the event that a repair is needed? (who pays to replace water, chemicals, repair yard, etc)?

Does the swimming pool builder have any installation or construction practices that distinguish them.



Part 5: Design and Project Planning

Make sure proper project planning includes at a minimum, details about:

- Pool Location (including pump and filter).
- Access area required to install pool.
- Deck layout.
- Fence Layout (if applicable).
- Drainage plan.

Part 6: Swimming Pool Contract and Pricing

- Everything discussed orally is written on contract.
- Completion Date of the project is listed on the contract.
- Detailed terms and conditions are included and you have reviewed them.

Notes