

If you are considering building a swimming pool, you have probably heard the horror stories. Before you start wading through volumes of manuals, and have dozens of contractors scheduled to come and give you a free estimate for your swimming pool construction, read the following ten mistakes people make when hiring a pool contractor.

10 Mistakes People Make When Hiring a Pool Contractor

- 1. Shopping like you are buying a car.**
Swimming pools are custom construction projects and are built by many individual trades and pool contractors with different standards. All pools are not built the same, unlike an automobile which is manufactured in a factory under controlled conditions. With a swimming pool much of what you do not see will impact the cost of pool ownership.
- 2. Not asking enough questions.**
Do not assume every builder is going to give you an education about constructing a pool or is capable of giving you one, for that matter. The more you know and understand about swimming pool construction the better buyer you will ultimately be. We can help you do your homework.
- 3. Paralysis by analysis.**
This is when someone gets 10-15 or more estimates for swimming pool construction and then can't make a decision because they have become so confused. We do your due diligence for you by getting 3 or 4 estimates from reputable swimming pool companies that we prequalify. Then we help you make an informed decision based on the information we receive.
- 4. Not checking out the experience level, history, or background of a Contractor.**
What makes them qualified to build swimming pools? Consider the saying, "If you think the cost of a Professional is expensive, wait until you hire an Amateur." With PoolWorx we do the due diligence for you so that you can make an informed decision regarding your contractor.
- 5. Shopping based on price.**
Usually if a deal seems too good to be true, it is! If you shop for price alone you are destined to be disappointed. Bottom line: you usually get what you pay for. With PoolWorx we align you with the best contractor for your particular project. For an example, if you desire a negative edge pool we will suggest a pool contractor with the most experience in these types of pools. On the other hand, if your ultimate goal is for a simple lap or play pool it may not make sense to hire a company that specializes in luxury pools.
- 6. Shopping over the phone for a pool.**
It is impossible and a waste of time. Visit the swimming pool builder or have them come to your home to provide you with an estimate. Visiting a contractor's place of business will tell you a lot about the type of business it is.
- 7. Assuming swimming pools cost less to build in the wintertime.**
We have seen increases in steel prices, concrete shortages, gas increases, and insurance premium hikes. Pools don't get cheaper as time goes on; building a swimming pool will never be less expensive than it is today. However, if you are well prepared and have a well thought out and conceived plan for your outdoor living space, the price of the pool can be negotiated. Pool builders are much more likely to reduce their cost if they don't have to pay a salesman commission or marketing dollars to get you in the door.

8. **Not reading contracts.**

Make sure you understand what you are getting into. Make sure everything is in writing. It is very difficult to cancel a contract with many contractors after the obligatory 3-day rescission period. The contract should protect you AND the contractor. We have seen many bad contracts accepted just because people were lazy. We act as your 3rd party consultant and review all contracts to make sure that they are legal and that you are protected.

9. **Focusing on the aesthetics and not the mechanicals of the pool building project.**

Hydraulic design, flow rates, pipe size, pump and filter types, chemical management systems, and many other factors will make a difference in the ability of your swimming pool to stay clean and sanitized. While under-sizing equipment is likely to save you money in extra pumps and plumbing initially, the efficiency of each system may be drastically reduced. Over-sizing equipment, on the other hand, can be detrimental to your pocketbook by increasing annual operating costs for electricity.

10. **Not thinking about safety.**

Swimming pools can be a great place to recreate, exercise, and just enjoy the outdoors. They can also be dangerous. Make sure you know what your City requires for barriers and fencing. More importantly, make sure you protect the ones you care for, and protect the ones that cannot protect themselves.

With PoolWorxSM.....We Got Your Back!

At Knäak Design Group, we feel that many of the construction practices used today in the pool building industry are adverse to consumers and see a great need for change. Our PoolWorxSM program was created to help people protect their investment while providing them with professional design and consulting services. Let us show you how at no cost to you!

Contact Us at: [800.560.8361](tel:800.560.8361) to learn more about our service.

