



# WATER SAFETY BARRIERS



*No single barrier provides 100% protection. Multiple barriers must be in place so that if one fails, there is another to slow or prevent a child from reaching the water alone and unsupervised. The more barriers you install and maintain, the safer your family will be.*



**Orange County  
Fire Authority**

**714-573-6200**

[ocfa.org](http://ocfa.org)



*Identify your risk and have numerous barriers in place to keep children from all water sources.*

## **Non-Climbable Fence**

- Install a 4-sided isolation fence tall enough to prevent children from climbing over (at least 4-5 feet)
- Chain-link or other climbable fences don't provide adequate protection
- Bottom of fence must be close enough to the ground to prevent a child from crawling under
- Remove patio furniture or other items a child might use to climb over a fence

## **Self-Closing/Latching Gate**

- Install a self-closing, self-latching gate with a locking mechanism a child can't reach
- Gate should open outward away from the pool

## **Pool/Spa Covers**

- Pool and spa covers protect children and pets by acting as horizontal fences

## **Door/Window/Pool Alarms**

- Alarms will sound whenever triggered

## **Child and Pet Alarms**

- Child wristbands and pet collars trigger the base alarm as soon as they get wet
- Portable and can be used at any pool

## **Indoor Barriers**

- Child-safety doorknob handle covers
- Toilet latches
- Baby gates

Barriers buy time! But, they only offer protection if they work properly. Inspect barriers for damage regularly and repair immediately if needed.