

# FOCUS on Vinyl Pool Liners



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Backyard swimming pools create oases of relaxation for homeowners, but there's a lot of work to get to that point. It starts during planning with basic design decisions and continues through the life of the pool with ongoing maintenance required to keep it serviceable and looking good. Many decisions must be made to result in an optimal product, perhaps none more important than the choice of material from which the pool will be formed.

Fiberglass and concrete are popular options, with fiberglass offering design choices beyond boxy, four-sided configurations, and concrete offering supreme durability. But each has its drawbacks. Fiberglass has width and depth limitations. Concrete is rough on the skin (and has the aforementioned design limitations). Which is why vinyl pool liners are the ultimate choice for pools that are beautiful, functional, diverse, and affordable. They can offer the size and depth of concrete with the easy maintenance of fiberglass – along with design options in seemingly unlimited shapes and colors. Homeowners with backyard swimming pools depend on vinyl pool liners to keep their pools looking beautiful, season after season.

**HERE ARE FIVE REASONS WHY VINYL IS THE BEST CHOICE FOR COMFORTABLE, STRESS-FREE POOL ENJOYMENT.**

### 1 DESIGN FLEXIBILITY.



Swimming pools can be much more than simple rectangles these days, and vinyl is a big reason why. With vinyl, pools aren't locked into a limited number of shapes, looks, or design options. It is highly customizable into many shapes, sizes, colors, and depths. Vinyl can go deeper than fiberglass and is comparable to concrete. Vinyl liners are versatile in pattern and style choice, with the ability to customize to exterior style, such as adding a spa or tanning deck. Pool owners can also alter the look of the exterior space and style more easily, more often.

### 2 BETTER FEEL.

One of the most attractive characteristics of vinyl pool liners is the smooth, comfortable finish. Vinyl provides a non-abrasive surface that is gentle on feet and skin. No more skinned elbows and heels! It is the most comfortable of all in-ground pool types. Vinyl simply feels better, and that's important for a space in which the primary purpose is to relax and unwind.

### 3 FAST INSTALLATION.

Vinyl comes with a rapid timeline for construction and installation, much faster than concrete. In fact, vinyl can be installed in a backyard in less than three weeks. (Actual construction timelines will depend on pool features, length, depth, etc.). Pool owners will have more choices in terms of qualified professionals in the market who can sell and install, creating easier entry into the market and greater choice for pool owners. Another selling point is that, any time after installation, a "refresh" takes only a limited time to execute

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and is usually much less expensive than it would be to lay a new surface on a concrete pool.

**4 EASE OF MAINTENANCE.**

All pools need maintenance, but vinyl pool liners require much less than concrete or fiberglass. The smooth surface discourages formation of algae and helps prevent other potential pool contaminants from getting a foothold. Its non-porousness doesn't absorb chemicals, meaning it takes less to keep the pool clean. Also, stains on a vinyl liner generally are reversible because the finish is not as porous. Vinyl is also resilient to freeze/thaw cycles experienced in seasonal climates, resistant to cracking at -29 degrees Celsius. With regular maintenance, life cycles can exceed 10 years.



**5 COST-EFFECTIVE.**

Vinyl pool liners are highly cost-effective with the lowest up front cost. The cost of replacement, upgrade, or refresh is also much lower, as is leak repair. The result is an affordable, high-quality swimming pool option.

**SEASONAL CARE**



Vinyl pool liners do have certain seasonal care requirements, including the use of non-abrasive cleaning agents, vacuums and cleaners specially designed for vinyl lined pools, and prohibition of sharp objects in or around the pool because they can puncture the liner. Pools should be covered when not in use to decrease exposure to damaging ultraviolet rays. To avoid high concentrations of airborne chemicals building up between the water and the cover, the cover should be opened or vented every 24 hours. The pool



should never be drained completely without consulting a pool professional. The older the liner, the higher the risk that it will shrink and not stretch back into its original shape.

**VINYL POOL LINERS AND SALT CHLORINE GENERATORS**

A common misunderstanding of homeowners of salt-water pools is that they are chlorine-free. Salt pools still use chlorine as a sanitizing agent, the only difference is that chlorine isn't added in the form of tablets or granules. Salt chlorine generators constantly generate chlorine from the salt. This not only results in a constant chlorine output, but also creates the potential for a higher pH level. This can reduce the sanitizing activity of the chlorine, and also cause cloudy water and scaling. One of the best practices is to perform a regular water chemistry check and ensure proper water chemistry parameters are maintained:

