

☆☆ THE ULTIMATE POOL SIDE GRUDGE MATCH ☆☆

# CRACKDOWN!



GENERIC  
**CONCRETE**  
POOLS

VS

LATHAM  
**FIBERGLASS**  
POOLS

HOSTED BY



THIS EBOOK IS

**FREE**

LIVE FROM THE BACK YARD ★ NO RADIO ★ NO LIVE TV



# ☆ ☆ THE ULTIMATE POOL SIDE GRUDGE MATCH ☆ ☆

## 2 POOLS. 1 BACKYARD. WHO WILL CRACK FIRST?

Have you ever thought about installing a pool in your backyard? A pool can be an amazing feature that will improve the enjoyment of your home. After all, there's nothing quite like throwing a pool party during the summer for your family and friends. And you can use it to keep fit as well. Swimming is one of the best forms of exercise there is!

One of the reasons you may have dismissed the notion of installing a pool is all the maintenance that a pool seems to require, along with all of the costs that are associated with that maintenance. With a fiberglass pool, however, maintenance has never been easier. In fact, it's one of the main advantages of fiberglass pools compared to more traditional pools like concrete varieties. But what exactly is the difference between fiberglass swimming pools and concrete swimming pools, and how do you decide between the two?

**YOU'RE GOING DOWN,  
KIDDY POOL!**





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Concrete pools were once the standard in the pool industry. Fiberglass wasn't as popular because it was considered unattractive. For a long time, the only finish available to fiberglass pools was white, but this has changed as technology has advanced. Now fiberglass pools are available in many colored finishes. This has resulted in fiberglass swimming pools growing in popularity to the point where they have become one of the most popular options.



Today, fiberglass pools are manufactured using a high-quality gel coat, vinyl ester resin and fiberglass, which results in a very durable material that can withstand both cold and hot temperatures. It's also very flexible, which means less risk of damage. The smooth finish of fiberglass is a huge benefit as well. Do you remember having to be extra careful when climbing out of the pool or leaning over the water because you were afraid of scraping your knees on the concrete? Fiberglass eliminates that problem.



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## THE PROS AND CONS OF FIBERGLASS VS CONCRETE

### INSTALLATION

Fiberglass pools are manufactured as a single unit in a climate controlled facility using a high-quality mold. This is actually a huge advantage because it means that it will only take a few days to install. Compare this to a concrete pool, which has to be installed on site and can take months to install.

### SHAPE AND SIZE

The main disadvantage of fiberglass pools is that they are not as customizable as concrete pools. Concrete pools can be made into any shape or size, whereas fiberglass pools come in an established set of shapes and sizes that you have to choose from since they are manufactured off-site. However, it's not difficult to find a fiberglass pool that will fit the space you have. Plus, just like concrete, fiberglass pools can be enhanced with tanning ledges, raised spas, and water features.

### DURABILITY

Fiberglass is designed to flex without fracturing. Once the pool is manufactured and installed, it rests in a static environment and is not subject to cracking caused by the expansion and contraction associated with temperature extremes. In fact, a fiberglass swimming pool shell is designed to perform without failure for a lifetime of enjoyment.

### LIFETIME COSTS

Because a concrete swimming pool requires regular maintenance throughout its lifetime, from acid washing to re-plastering, the long-term costs can add up. Fiberglass swimming pools generally cost the same for installation. But over time, you end up saving quite a bit in upkeep and maintenance with a fiberglass pool.



# THE OPTIONS AND FEATURES OF FIBERGLASS POOLS

While concrete swimming pools have a number of different features and options that you can add to them, they are nowhere near as extensive as those that fiberglass pools provide. The following are just a few of the options you can consider with a fiberglass pool:

- **Steps, seats and ledges** – Depending on the fiberglass model you select, seats and ledges are designed in to the shell and are integral to the one-piece unit delivered to your home. Steps, of course, are built in to every model.
- **Tanning Ledge** – Add an additional water feature right next to the fiberglass pool in the form of a tanning ledge. This shallow body of water can be used as a kids' play area, for sunbathing, or simply to add a running water feature to create a sense of natural beauty.
- **Tile** – You can add ceramic or glass tile to any part of the fiberglass pool to create a more sophisticated appearance. Your tile options are practically limitless.
- **Streams** – Add a touch of luxury and elegance to a fiberglass pool by adding streams to the sides. The streams are adjustable, which means that you can change the direction of their flow to suit your taste.
- **LED Lighting** – There are several types of lighting systems that you can have installed to make the pool safer for use at night. Fiberglass pool owners can go with a PAL Commander, which provides optional connectivity to tablets and smartphones and a one-touch color advance function known as the PAL Color Touch, which allows you to control color, brightness, speed and more with optional connectivity to tablets and smartphones as well.
- **In-floor Cleaning** - One popular feature many fiberglass pool owners select because it makes maintenance easier is an in-floor cleaning system. These systems help distribute the chemicals through your pool while helping to clean the pool's floor. Some even have canisters to catch large debris before it gets to the main pool filter.
- **Safety Covers** - We recommend that every pool owner – no matter what type of pool they have – invest in a safety cover. An automatic safety cover is by far the easiest and most convenient way to protect your pool but a seasonal solid and mesh cover will also suffice. A safety cover will help protect the pool during the winter and keep it clean year round.



# THE MAINTENANCE OF FIBERGLASS VS CONCRETE

One of the biggest advantages of fiberglass swimming pools is that they are much easier to maintain than concrete pools. Not only do concrete pools require a number of maintenance tasks every year; there's a bigger chance that you'll have to make repairs as well. The following are a couple of the maintenance tasks that you'll have to perform on a concrete swimming pool that you won't have to worry about if you have a fiberglass swimming pool:



- Every three to five years, you'll need to acid wash the pool shell of your concrete swimming pool.
- You may need to re-plaster or re-tile the interior of a concrete pool.

Fiberglass is easier to maintain than concrete because concrete is porous and fiberglass is non-porous. When you spill oil on your driveway, you can't just wipe it up and expect it to look brand new. However, when you spill anything on fiberglass (oil included), you can easily wipe it off the smooth surface.



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# OUR TALE OF THE TAPE



**GENERIC  
CONCRETE  
POOLS**



**LATHAM  
FIBERGLASS  
POOLS**

☆☆

**INSTALLATION**

☆☆☆☆☆

☆☆☆☆☆

**SHAPE AND SIZE**

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☆☆☆☆

**DURABILITY**

☆☆☆☆☆

☆☆☆

**LIFETIME COSTS**

☆☆☆☆☆



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# YOUR WINNER AND BACKYARD SWIMMING POOL CHAMPION

LATHAM ★★★★★  
**FIBERGLASS**  
★★★★★ POOLS



The advantages of fiberglass swimming pools make them well worth considering over concrete swimming pools. Fiberglass is a more resilient material that doesn't need nearly as much maintenance and therefore ends up costing much less over its lifetime. For information or advice about our line of fiberglass pools and the different features and options that we offer, be sure to contact us at Latham Pool today.



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Latham Pool Products is the leading manufacturer of in-ground residential fiberglass swimming pools, pool covers, and vinyl pool liners in North America.

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