# Buying a Home With a Pool

## Fun, Maintenance and What It Means for Resale Values

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A backyard pool is a dream for some homebuyers and a dealbreaker for others. Before you dive in, it's important to understand how a pool affects everything from your monthly budget to your future resale value.

### MORE THAN JUST SUMMER FUN

A pool can provide relaxation, exercise and entertainment, especially in warmer climates where it's usable most of the year. It may also increase a home's appeal in areas where pools are common, such as Arizona, Florida or California.

However, in other regions, pools can be seen as optional or even undesirable, especially if they take up yard space or are difficult to maintain during colder seasons.

Some buyers are drawn to the luxury feel a pool brings, while others see it as a safety concern — especially families with small children or pets.

### MAINTENANCE COSTS AND RESALE

Pools require regular cleaning, chemical balancing and equipment checks. Homeowners may spend $100 to $300 a month on professional maintenance, or more if repairs are needed. Additional costs can include:

- Electricity to run the pump and heater
- Increased insurance premiums
- Fencing or covers required for safety compliance
- Occasional resurfacing or liner replacement

When it comes to resale, the value added by a pool depends on the local market. In hot climates, a pool may boost interest and justify a higher asking price. In cooler or mixed-climate areas, it could narrow your buyer pool.

Before buying, always have the pool professionally inspected. Structural issues, aging equipment or outdated safety features can lead to costly repairs.

Buying a home with a pool is a lifestyle choice as much as a financial one. If you're ready for the upkeep and the added responsibility, it could be the perfect place to relax, entertain and enjoy your backyard oasis.

# HOMEWISE

Real Estate Tips and Advice

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**REAL ESTATE 101**

**Your Insurance May Go Up**

Owning a pool can raise your homeowners insurance premium. Be sure to ask your insurance provider how much more it may cost and what safety features are required.

**HOMEWISE GLOSSARY**

**In-Ground Pool:** An in-ground pool is a permanent swimming pool built into the ground, typically made of concrete, fiberglass or vinyl. It can add recreational value and aesthetic appeal to a home but also increases maintenance and insurance needs.