



Home Improvement Tips

Making A New Splash With Your Pool

(NAPSA)—There are a number of ways to improve the looks of your pool without taking a bath in construction costs.

For example, pool renovations (which include both structural and mechanical upgrades) can help change your swimming pool into a backyard oasis—thanks to major advances in pool-building materials, finishing techniques and equipment.

If you plan to renovate, try these tips before diving into a project:



Make Waves With Surfacing

All concrete/gunite pools require periodic surface refinishing. New finishes can restore as well as enhance the appearance of a pool. Typical finishing techniques use paint, plaster or fiberglass. Finishes composed of colored mixtures and specifically formulated aggregate materials have also become popular.

Pump It Up

A pool renovation can be a great time to consider upgrading the mechanical systems in a swimming pool. Pumps account for the bulk of a pool's energy consumption. A modern and efficient model can cut electric bills significantly. For example, Pentair Pool Products™ designs pumps that con-



Waves of new technology are helping homeowners renovate their pools to create “backyard oases.”

serve energy by minimizing the turbulence of water that flows through them—and the amount of energy they use. The company, which makes a full line of natural gas and propane heaters, also makes the MiniMax® Plus HP heat pumps. They use combustion technology to keep pools warm for just pennies a day.

Getting Control

Automated controls can add simplicity and convenience to pool operation—and save you money. For example, by programming filtration and heating cycles to run at optimum intervals, you can keep your pool comfortably warm and crystal clear, while helping you avoid the costs associated with excess energy use. In addition, automated controls can help you cut costs by letting you program the pump to only run during off-peak billing hours.

Light Up The Night

Few things transform a nighttime pool environment as dramatically and easily as automated color lighting (pool lighting can also enhance safety). Lights such

Safety Tips For Pool Owners

- Install barriers to make the pool or spa area safer and delay entry of unsupervised children.
- Don't rely on substitutes: flotation devices cannot replace parental supervision.
- Safety experts at Pentair Pool Products™ recommend a procedure called CHECK CALL-CARE: If you come upon a person in an emergency, CHECK the scene to ensure it's safe and CHECK the victim. Then CALL 9-1-1 or your local emergency number, and CARE for the person until help arrives.
- Take an American Red Cross CPR and first aid class and keep a phone by the pool.

For more tips visit www.pentairpools.com.

as the Spectrum Amerlite® (SAM™) as well as SAL™ for spas, let pool owners choose from a broad spectrum of colors to add drama and excitement to the backyard ambience.

Free Brochures

For more ideas, call 1-800-374-4700 to obtain free brochures or visit www.pentairpools.com.