



Pool Design Trends and flexible outdoor spaces

In recent years, residential pool construction trends have aimed at adding a resort feel to pools. Spillover spas, fountain jets and

waterfalls long ago replaced the slides and diving boards of our youth; yet these features are just part of the overall pool environment.

Often in resort pool design, more attention is paid to the layout of the surrounding deck space as to the water itself. Homeowners with pools often comment that while the water is the main draw for kids, they are surprised at the small percentage of time they are actually in the water.

When planning and designing a pool for your home it is important to consider the following:

Deck Size is key; target a deck to water area ratio of 3:1. Ask your designer for a furniture layout to see how the space will work. The most dramatic upgrade you can make to your pool includes adding color, texture and pattern to the deck.

Covered Area Incorporating a portion of your deck under a hard roof will offer functional relief from sun and rain and will also serve as a transition space, connecting the indoors with the outdoors. The sheltered area creates an outdoor living room with cushioned furnishings, ceiling fans and lighting. If the space allows and you intend to entertain frequently, consider a wet bar or summer kitchen.

Storage Avoid clutter by providing adequate storage space for cleaning equipment, toys and towels. The size of storage required can vary depending on the number/age of pool users and how much of the pool maintenance you intend on performing yourself. An exterior 4' x 4' storage closet will allow you to conceal unattractive items and secure chemicals.

Even with the favorable climate of Central Florida you can extend the seasonal use of the pool area to almost year round by viewing the pool area as a whole and designing in flexibility to create a great people place for the entire family.



Do you have questions about pool design?



Contact Bill at bpoulin@canin.com or visit his company's website at www.canin.com.

Bill has more than 18 years of professional experience as a landscape architect involving a wide range of challenging public and private assignments at various scales. Mr. Poulin's background includes project management, site planning, detailed landscape and hardscape design, graphic rendering, construction documentation and construction administration.