

THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BUILDING CODE

54 inches (1372 mm) from the bottom of the gate:

(a) the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least three inches (76 mm) below the top of the gate; and (b) the gate and barrier shall not have an opening greater than 1/2 inch (13 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the release mechanism.

9. Where a wall of a dwelling serves as part of the barrier, one of the following shall apply:

9.1. All doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen, if present, are opened. The audible warning shall commence not more than seven seconds after the door and screen door, if present, are opened and shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds. The alarm shall have a minimum sound pressure rating of 85 dBA at ten feet (3048 mm) and the sound of the alarm shall be distinctive from other household sounds such as smoke alarms, telephones and door bells. The alarm shall automatically reset under all conditions. The alarm shall be equipped with manual means, such as touchpads or switches, to deactivate temporarily the alarm for a single opening from either direction. Such deactivation shall last for not more than 15 seconds. The deactivation touchpads or switches shall be located at least 54 inches (1372 mm) above the threshold of the door.

9.2. The pool shall be equipped with an approved power safety cover.

10. Where an above-ground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a fixed or removable ladder or steps, the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of 780 CMR 421.10.1 items 1 through 9. A removable ladder shall not constitute an acceptable alternative to enclosure requirements.

**421.10.2 Indoor private swimming pool:** All walls surrounding an indoor private swimming pool shall comply with 780 CMR 421.10.1, item 9.

**421.10.3 Prohibited locations:** Barriers shall be located so as to prohibit permanent structures, equipment or similar objects from being used to climb the barriers.

**421.10.4 Exemptions:** The following shall be exempt from the provisions of 780 CMR 421.0.

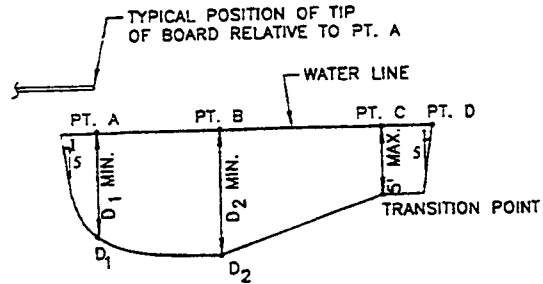
1. A spa or hot tub with an approved safety cover.
2. Fixtures which are drained after each use.

**421.11 Diving boards:** Minimum water depths and distances for diving hoppers for pools, based on board height above water, shall comply with Table 421.11(1) for public pools and Table 421.11 (2) for

private pools.

The maximum slope permitted between point D<sub>2</sub> and the transition point shall not exceed one unit vertical to three units horizontal (1:3) in private and public pools. D<sub>1</sub> is the point directly under the end of the diving boards. D<sub>2</sub> is the point at which the floor begins to slope upwards to the transition point. See Figure 421.11.

**Figure 421.11  
MINIMUM WATER DEPTHS AND  
DISTANCES BASED ON BOARD HEIGHT  
FOR ALL PUBLIC, SEMI PUBLIC AND  
PRIVATE POOLS**



**Table 421.1 1(1)  
MINIMUM WATER DEPTHS AND  
DISTANCES BASED ON BOARD  
HEIGHT FOR ALL PUBLIC POOLS**

Board height	Minimum depth <sup>a</sup> at D <sub>1</sub> directly under end of board	Distance <sup>a</sup> between D <sub>1</sub> and D <sub>2</sub>	Minimum depth <sup>a</sup> at D <sub>2</sub>
22" (3/4 meter)	7'0"	8'0"	8'6"
2'6" (3/4 meter)	7'6"	9'0"	9'0"
1 meter	8'6"	10'0"	10'0"
3 meter	11'0"	10'0"	12'0"

Note a. 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

**Table 421.11(2)  
MINIMUM WATER DEPTHS AND  
DISTANCES BASED ON BOARD HEIGHT  
FOR PRIVATE POOLS**

Board height	Minimum depth <sup>a</sup> at D <sub>1</sub> directly under end of board	Distance <sup>a</sup> between D <sub>1</sub> and D <sub>2</sub>	Minimum depth <sup>a</sup> at D <sub>2</sub>
1'8" (1/2 meter)	6'0"	7'0"	7'6"
22" (3/4 meter)	6'10"	7'6"	8'0"
2'6" (3/4 meter)	7'5"	8'0"	8'0"
3'4" (1 meter)	8'6"	9'0"	9'0"

Note a. 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

**780 CMR 422.0 EXISTING BUILDINGS**

**422.1 Existing Buildings:** See 780 CMR 34.

**422.2 Places of assembly**

**422.2.1 Change of use:** An existing building or structure or part thereof shall not be altered or