

Best Pool & Water *Safety Tips*

Do's

- Maintain **1:1 adult-to-child ratio** with **touch supervision** (always within arm's reach).
- All children must wear a properly fitting, **US Coast Guard-approved life jacket** or PFD suited for the water type.
- Know locations of **emergency shut-offs** (e.g., Jacuzzis) and rescue equipment.
- Be familiar with **entry/exit points**, steps, and pool depth.
- Dress children in **bright colors** like neon pink or orange—**avoid blues and pastels**.
- **Photograph your group the day** of the activity wearing their swim gear.
- **Swim near lifeguards** and **understand beach flags and signage**.
- Learn where **riptides/rip currents** occur; if caught, **float with the current**.
- Get **CPR certified** before visiting pools, beaches, or waterparks.
- If a child goes missing, **immediately check** pools, spas, tubs, toilets, laundry machines, and any water-filled container.
- Ensure all **barriers and fences** around water sources are secure and functional.
- Perform **frequent headcounts** of all children.

Don'ts

- **Don't rely on a lifeguard** to babysit children in your care.
- **Don't rely on flotation devices** as a replacement for close, touch-level supervision.
- **Don't bring glass** items to pools.
- Don't be complacent; **stay vigilante**, even as children grow older.
- Don't enter **pools** with **damaged drains** or **grates**; if possible notify the pool manager immediately.
- **Do not fight** rip tides.
- Don't use uncertified or imitation gear; **only use US Coast Guard-certified life jackets**.

