

Fiberglass vs. Concrete and Vinyl Liner Pools - Here's a chart comparing Fiberglass, Concrete (Gunite) and Vinyl Liner pools. We've put the data together so that you can weigh the benefits of buying a Fiberglass pool for yourself.

Check out our **Swimming Pool Comparison Chart** below:

	Fiberglass Pools	Concrete (Gunite) Pools	Vinyl Liner Pools
Warranty	Lifetime by the Manufacturer	1-5 years by contractor	Liner seams only
Installation Time	5-15 days, ready for decking using few (if any) subcontractors.	8-12 weeks using many different subcontractors.	2-3 weeks using few subcontractors.
Shapes of Pools	Limited to the models of the manufacturer.	Unlimited	Limited to the models of the manufacturer.
Price of Pools	Average	High	Average
Estimated Chemical Usage	Surface does not alter water's chemical balance. Substantially fewer chemicals used.	Plaster reacts with water to raise pH levels. Uses substantially more acid & chlorine to counterbalance this chemical reaction.	Surface does not alter water's chemical balance. Fewer chemicals used.
Estimated Electricity Use	Circulate water 4-6 hours daily.	Circulate water 8-10 hours daily.	Circulate water 5-7 hours daily.
Surface Texture	Smooth, non-abrasive to skin or swim suits, walking and seating areas are textured for slip resistance.	Rough, causes skin abrasions to feet, hands, and swim wear.	Slippery, easily punctured or torn by toys, pets or resurfacing rocks.
Algae Penetration	Algae sweeps off with wall brush.	Algae grows and is harbored in pores of gunite. Acid baths and scrubbing required to remove algae.	Seams of liner harbor algae.
Estimated Maintenance Time	1/2 hour per week minimum	4-5 hours per week	2-3 hours per week
Major Renovation	None	Re-marcite or re-plaster at 5-7 years.	Vinyl liner needs to be replaced every 7-9 years.
Stairs and Seating	Built into pool shell.	Optional & additional cost.	Optional & additional cost
Quality Control	Manufactured in environmentally controlled factory under stringent quality control standards.	Manufactured on-site. No environmental control.	Kit manufactured in factory. Quality of on-site assembly varies by installer.
Type of Coping	Fiberglass or concrete	Concrete	Aluminum (which easily corrodes)
Loan Acceptance	Excellent	Good	Fair