

# How to Design A Backyard Staycation

Fun Environment for Your Family





Let's face it; planning a family vacation is hard on the wallet. With all the effort you put into planning and organizing, it takes even more effort to replace what you've spent. You spend the weeks after your vacation trying to make up for the financial gap that was created because of a short family getaway. And to think, all the time you spent saving every penny to ensure your family vacation is awesome, has gone to waste. It was fun while it lasted, but you have nothing tangible to show for it. You have memories that are great, but wouldn't it be better to create a backyard staycation fun environment that will last you throughout the years?

Oh, but don't think at home vacations are easy to plan. For those of you who enjoy planning there is still plenty of opportunity to organize your own staycation. Designing your backyard environment will take time and preparation. Every fun family staycation needs a swimming pool. A pool will allow you the pleasure of hours of exercise and the ability to stay cool in the warmer weather.

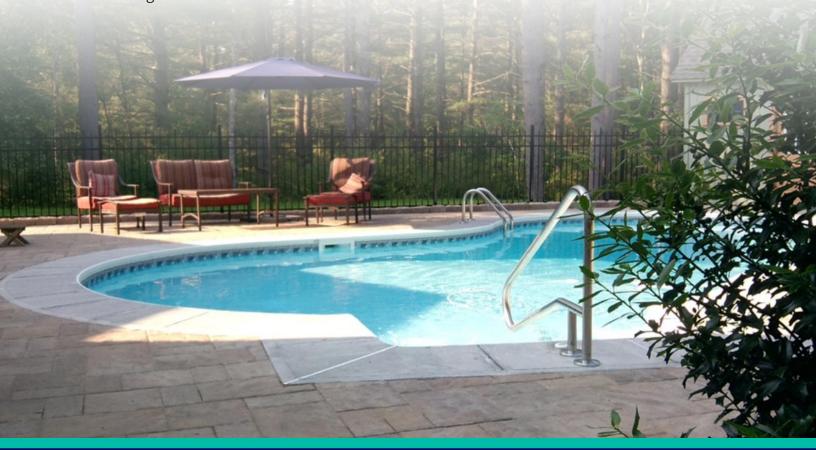




You should seek guidance from a professional pool builder who is familiar with creating the perfect environment that will best suit you and your family's needs. For instance, if there are mainly adults in your household, your "fun" environment will likely be a bit different than if you had children in your household. Give your pool builder details about what you are looking to create in your backyard, as well as the likes and dislikes of the people in your household, so that he will know what to recommend.

Your pool builder can also show you the different styles of pools available to you. He is able to answer all of your questions with detailed information. If there is something in particular that you desire in regards to your swimming pool, he will know how to get it for you.

In addition to a swimming pool, other features can be added to your backyard to make your staycation fun and inviting.





## **Young Families**

Families with younger children can add fun items to their backyard like slide or splash pads. Kids of all ages love running and playing in the water, but younger children need special supervision. Having a staycation in the privacy of your own backyard is a great way to ensure that your little ones are always being supervised. Since climbing in and out of the pool may be difficult for smaller children, a sun shelf or a beach entry leading in and out of the pool would be ideal. Adding an outdoor kitchen would give you the convenience of making snacks for the family between swims while keeping a close eye on your little ones. In addition to all of the great possibilities in swimming pool design, you can also add a playground for the kids to play before and after swimming or to use during the colder months.





#### Families with Teens

If you have teenagers, you may want to upgrade your pool and add a diving board to make swimming more exciting. A pool slide is also a fun item to have in your backyard pool. Marco polo or basketball and volleyball can also be played in the water. A concrete patio stationed around the pool area is a great place for your family to lie out in the sun after a swim session. This area can also be a convenient spot for a table with a beach umbrella to sit beneath after swimming. Many people choose to install an outdoor kitchen to grill their hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, steak or whatever else suits their palette. Swimming will make any teenager hungry, so it's best to save your kitchen floors from a stampede of wet and hungry teens and adopt an outdoor kitchen into your design.

Stay-at-home moms can have the best of both worlds. They can lounge around the pool as they work on their tans or take a dip in the pool while knowing that their kids are playing in sight. They will have the added satisfaction of knowing that their growing children are safe and getting exercise. Teens usually prefer hanging out with friends away from the family, but with a fun staycation area, they'll always want to stay home. Also, expect your teens to invite their friends over often. This is where that outdoor kitchen will come in handy. You get to practice your barbequing skills and your teens get to soak up the sun. It's a win-win for everyone.





### **Empty Nesters**

If the kids are grown and out of the house, you can create a fun backyard environment that's more adult-friendly. Mix and match elements just for you and your spouse, or consider adding in a few family-friendly features for your future grandchildren.

If it's adult entertainment you're looking for, add an outdoor bar to your outdoor kitchen. Step it up a notch and make it a swim-up bar. You can also install sound systems and TVs to make your outdoor space truly entertaining.

Water features such as fountains and waterfalls add a touch of luxury to your swimming pool. A spa or hot tub are two other water features that can create a place of relaxation.





## Make Your Backyard "THE" Place to Be

Having a fun environment in your backyard for your family will make everyone that much happier to be home. Parents can look forward to spending their late afternoons and evenings outdoors with the kids after their workday. Likewise, kids will be happy to be with the family all evening doing something that everyone enjoys.

Why go far away for family fun when you can bring the fun to you? Make your backyard "the" summer hangout. Create a staycation for you and your family and make memories to last a lifetime.

