

Backyard Dream Guide

by Kevin Sparks Signature Pools

connection & community



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Planning

& Design

Designing a backyard is more than picking materials or features — it's about creating a space where your family will live, relax, celebrate, and grow. This guide is designed to help families think through their needs, preferences, and possibilities before meeting with a designer or builder.

Once you've worked through this guide, you'll be prepared to collaborate with a professional designer or builder who can turn your ideas into a cohesive, functional backyard tailored to your family.

[schedule a design & planning meeting](#)

1. family lifestyle

Before thinking about pools, patios, or plants,
consider how your family actually lives.

Questions to Ask:

- Who will use the backyard most often? (Adults, young kids, teens, guests, pets)
- How often do you envision using the space? Daily, weekends, or special occasions?
- Is this a space for relaxing, entertaining, active play, or a mix of everything?
- Do you want quiet retreat areas, social gathering spaces, or both?

Thoughts to Consider:

- Your lifestyle today vs. in 5–10 years
- How seasons affect your outdoor use
- Whether your backyard should feel like an extension of your home's interior



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Allure | Color: Silver Gray

2. *define* primary goals

Clarifying your top priorities helps guide every design decision.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Infinity | Color: Ebony Blue

Ideas to Explore:

- Family recreation and play
- Hosting friends and extended family
- Wellness and relaxation
- Increasing home value
- Creating a private escape

Helpful Exercise: Rank your top 3 goals for the backyard. This helps balance budget, space, and features.

1.

2.

3.

3.

learn your space

Every backyard has opportunities and constraints.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Ultimate | Color: Graphite Gray

Questions to Ask:

- How much usable space do you have?
- Is your yard flat, sloped, or multi-level?
- Where does the sun rise and set?
- Are there views you want to highlight or block?
- What existing elements should stay? (Trees, fences, structures)

Thoughts to Consider:

- Privacy from neighbors
- Noise from streets or nearby homes
- Drainage and water flow
- Local zoning or HOA requirements

4. budget

investment planning

A clear budget allows for smarter design choices.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Pinnacle | Color: Sapphire Blue
Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Amalfi Spa | Color: Sapphire Blue

Questions to Ask:

- What is your comfortable investment range?
- Are there features you want now vs. later?
- Would a phased approach make sense?
- Would you like information on financing options for your project, or are you planning to move forward without financing? [Financing Information](#)

Ideas:

- Prioritize infrastructure first (grading, utilities, hardscape)
- Design with future additions in mind
- Balance statement features with long-term durability

5.

features



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Allure | Color: Sapphire Blue

Questions to Ask:

- What barrier will be placed between the backdoor, backyard access points and the water? (Safety fence, automatic safety cover)
- See Next Page

Ideas:

- Shallow play areas and tanning ledges
- Integrated spas
- Waterfalls or sheer descents

it is FREE to DREAM

Put a Check Mark Beside All Your Dream Backyard Items
Circle Your Top Five Must Haves

Pool

- Rectangle
- Freeform
- Diving Pool 8' Deep End
- Flat Bottom Pool
- Tanning Shelf
- Hot Tub in Pool
- In Pool Furniture
- _____
- _____

Hot Tub

Cold Plunge

Pool Safety

- Automatic Safety Cover
- Pool Safety Fence
- Property Fencing
- _____
- _____

Hardscape

- Concrete
- Pavers
- Natural Stone
- Travertine
- Marble
- Porcelain
- _____
- _____

Water Features

- Deck Jets
- Waterfall Wall
- WaterBowls
- Lights in Water Features
- _____
- _____

Fire Features

- Firepit
- Firebowls
- Fireplace
- _____
- _____

Recreation

- Slide
- Boulder Waterfall with Slide
- Diving Board
- Volleyball Net
- Basketball Goal
- Pickle Ball Court
- Putting Green
- Batting Cage
- TV
- Outdoor Sound System
- _____
- _____

Walls

- Retaining Wall
- Privacy Wall
- Seat Wall
- _____
- _____

Landscaping

- Sod
- Turf
- Irrigation
- Planter Beds
- Trees
- River Rock in Planters

Lighting

- Pool Lighting
- Spa Lighting
- Hardscape Lighting
- Landscape Lighting
- _____
- _____

Furniture

- Dining Table
- Sofa
- Chairs
- Hammock
- Swing
- _____
- _____

6.

away

outdoor living

Comfortable outdoor spaces extend how long and how often you use your backyard.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Eclipse | Color: Sapphire Blue

Questions to Ask:

- Do you want covered areas for shade and rain protection?
- Will you cook or dine outdoors regularly?
- How many people do you typically host?

Ideas:

- Outdoor kitchens or grilling stations
- Fire pits or fireplaces
- Lounge seating vs. dining seating
- Outdoor TVs or music systems

7.

pets & play

zones with intention

Designing with kids and pets in mind improves safety and usability.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Supreme | Color: Silver Gray
Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Quartz Tanning Shelf | Color: Silver Gray

Questions to Ask:

- How old are your children now, and how quickly will their needs change?
- Do you want open lawn space for play?
- Do pets need a dedicated area?

Thoughts:

- Clear sightlines for supervision
- Durable materials for high-traffic areas
- Safe surfaces around play and pool zones

8. covering

Privacy, Shade & Comfort

Comfort is key to enjoying your backyard year-round.



8 Questions to Ask:

- Where do you feel exposed to neighbors?
- Do you need more shade during peak sun hours?
- How will wind affect seating and dining areas?

Ideas:

- Pergolas, pavilions, or shade sails
- Strategic landscaping for privacy
- Heaters or fans for extended seasonal use

9.
style
preferences

Your backyard should complement your home
and reflect your personality.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Ultimate | Color: Shimmer Sky

Questions to Ask:

- Do you prefer modern, traditional, rustic, or resort-inspired design?
- Are there colors, materials, or textures you love?
- Do you want the backyard to feel bold or calming?

Helpful Tip: Save inspiration photos and note what you like about each — not just the image itself.

10.

care

maintenance & long term

A beautiful backyard should fit your lifestyle,
not add stress.



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Riviera | Color: Graphite Gray
Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Calvi Spa | Color: Graphite Gray

Questions to Ask:

- How much time do you want to spend on upkeep?
- Do you prefer low-maintenance materials?
- Will you hire maintenance help or manage it yourself?

Thoughts:

- Long-term durability vs. initial cost
- Automated systems for pools, lighting, and irrigation

11.

vision check



Leisure Pools | Fiberglass | Model: The Ultimate | Color: Silver Gray

Before moving forward, step back and look at the big picture.

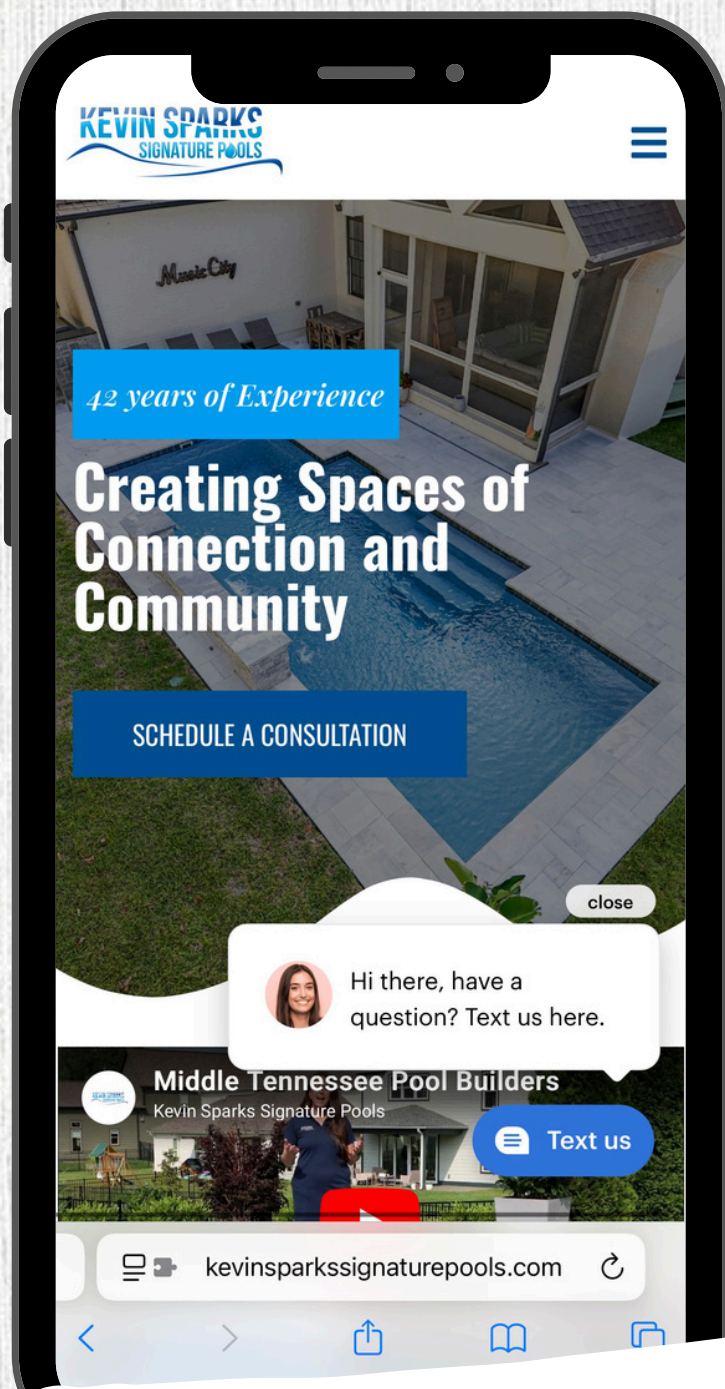
Ask Yourself:

- Does this backyard support how we want to live?
- Will it grow with our family?
- Does it feel welcoming, functional, and enjoyable?

Sketch Out Your Space

take your next step

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