

“How to Easily Build YOUR own Swimming Pool”



ALS Solid Wall

The Self-Build Swimming Pool Solution From The Experts at arburlandscapesolutions.co.uk

Also suitable for building
Spas . Hot tubs . Ponds . Raised beds . Retaining walls

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Building Your Own Swimming Pool is Easier Than You Think.....

Let me start by reassuring you that building your own swimming pool is not only achievable ... yet it's easier than you may have thought.

In this guide I'm going to walk you through the steps and show you how to use our unique ALS Solid Wall shuttering system to:

- **Build your own pool in half the time, compared to traditional building methods**
- Customise your pool to any size or shape
- **Save thousands of ££££ compared to building a conventional pool**



Why Build YOUR Own Swimming Pool . .

A swimming pool is more than a luxury.

It's a place to entertain, have fun with your family and improve your health and wellbeing.

A private at home pool is no longer the exclusive domain of the rich and famous.

It's remarkably affordable to construct your own private swimming pool.

Through this guide we will show you the various types of pools you can construct using our unique shuttering system.

We'll explain how and why the system doesn't require specialist tradesman for installation or finishing.

Even for curved pools and elaborate shapes. My team and I have been installing swimming pools and spas for over 20 years.

The truth is, our team use the unique **ALS Solid Wall** shuttering system I'm going to introduce you to in this guide.

You'll be amazed as the sizes, shapes and designs that can be achieved using this construction method.

What's more, you don't need specialist tradespeople either.

This is a **complete build-yourself system** that will give you a swimming pool you'll be proud to share with friends and family.

You can have any pool your heart desires, built by you, for a fraction of the cost of a professionally designed and installed pool.

Let's explore some of the types of pool you can create using this system.





Garden Swimming Pools ...

A swimming pool of any size is a delightful addition to your garden.

Imagine lazy summer days, relaxing on a sun lounger as the children splash in the pool.

Or returning home from work for a relaxing swim in the privacy of your own home.

Here are our top tips for planning and building your garden swimming pool ...

Position: Too close the house and it can interrupt the view from your window. Too far away and you have a long walk to get back inside to change.

Safety: If you have a young family, or grandchildren, you might want to consider separating the pool from the main garden, perhaps with fencing or an enclosure. This prevents children, or pets, from running straight from the house into the pool.

Keeping it clean: If you're positioning your pool outdoors a cover is essential. It will help to reduce the leaves and garden debris that end up in the water.

Basement swimming pools ...

If you're renovating your basement this is the perfect time to consider installing a swimming pool or spa pool.

Whilst you may at first consider your pool to be 'below ground' the most common construction in a basement is actually 'above ground'.

You see, the pool can be built to sit on the lowest level you excavate to ... then a false floor built around the edge of the pool.

This is called a block and beam floor.

This has several advantages – one is that you have the 'sunken' swimming pool effect ... yet also the cavity below the floor allows access and means you can position pumps and filters out of sight.

Often when creating a basement pool access is limited.

Our shuttering system is a perfect solution as the concrete can be hand mixed if necessary, meaning access for heavy machinery isn't required.



Above Ground Swimming Pools ...

These types of pools make a real feature in your garden.

Raised above the ground the walls of the pool can be tiled, rendered or clad to be in keeping with your garden design.

You can incorporate steps up to the pool for access, or build decking around the outside for seating or sunbathing.

One of the main advantages ... excavating the ground is not necessary, as the pool is constructed on a concrete pad ... constructed at ground level.

Below Ground swimming pools ...

The sunken pool gives a clean modern look to any installation.

They are less obtrusive than above ground pools and are a popular choice.

Pools can be any size or shape, yet excavating the ground is essential.

Be sure to consider where the excavated soil and waste will go.

One alternative to limit the amount of waste is to build your pool half in the ground and half above ground.

This gives you a deep pool without the need to excavate the full depth.



Spa Pools and Hot Tubs ...

Either built in isolation, or as part of your swimming pool installation, spas and hot tubs are a fantastic addition.

Typically, much smaller than your swimming pool they can be heated to a higher temperature more economically, creating the perfect environment for relaxing with friends.

All pools built with our system can be rendered or tiled, however we recommend tiling for hot tubs.

Most are designed with seating incorporated into the structure and then tiled in mosaic effect.

You can add water jets, filtration and heating as required.

Top Tip ...

Consider the design around the edge of your hot tub! Your guests will love it if you can incorporate somewhere for drinks.

Don't forget to have somewhere to hang your robes either!

And an outdoor shower to rinse off.



How to Build Your Own Swimming Pool in 10 Simple Steps ...

When you've decided on the position of your swimming pool and type of installation you need a clear plan of action.

Here's Our Simple 10-Point Checklist to Get You Started:

1. Plan your pool. Draw a detailed design including dimensions and depths.
2. **Mark out your pool on the ground. You can do this using builder's line or line marking paint – both readily available from hardware stores.**
3. Excavate the ground (if you are building a below ground pool). You can do this by hand, but if you're building a substantial pool you will save a considerable amount of time by hiring a digger.

Remember to excavate sufficient ground to allow for the depth of your pool as well as the concrete pad the pool will sit on.

4. **Remove all the topsoil and debris that is excavated. A clean and tidy site is safer.**
5. Mark out the pool's dimensions again checking the width, height and depth. I must emphasise this point, be sure to check all measurements - it will save you time compared to adjusting later.
6. **Prepare the concrete base for the pool. The specifications will depend on the size of pool you're constructing and the type of ground.**
7. Wait for the concrete pad to be completely dry – the time required will depend on the thickness of the concrete and the weather conditions if you're building outside.
8. **Prepare the shell with our unique shuttering system. Full instructions are supplied, but in simple terms, the blocks clip together to form the outer shell of your pool.**

Reinforcing bars are drilled and resin fixed to the base. The blocks are then lifted over the bars and held in place using base soles. A horizontal bar is then tied to the vertical bars as the wall is built.

9. With the complete structure clipped together you now pour concrete into the shell. If you are building a liner pool, the blocks have a smooth face so there is no need to finish the concrete.

For tiled pools you will see the cream of the concrete weeping through the holes. This is part of the design. Simply buff this back using a plastic or wooden float and you will create a perfectly smooth finish.

If any aggregate has blocked a hole simply mix sand and cement and buff into any remaining surface voids.

10. **Once dried apply tanking slurry – this makes the shell 100% waterproof before applying tiles.**

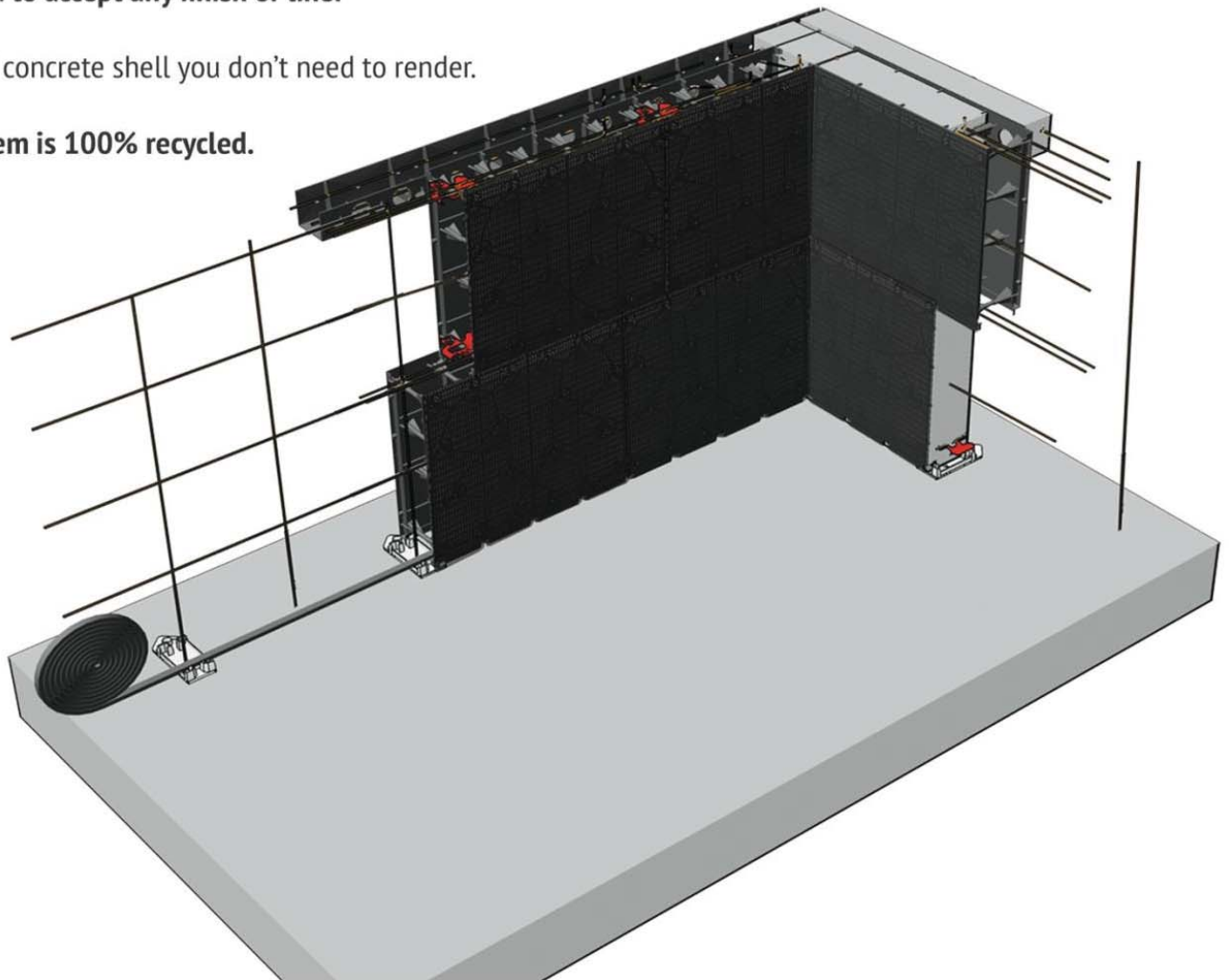
How The ALS Solid Wall System Works

ALS Solid Wall offers you an innovative, lightweight, permanent shuttering and construction block system for pools, walls and water features.

The UNIQUE system allows pool shells to be built quickly, without any specialist training.

Advantages of the ALS Solid Wall System at a glance

- Save thousands of ££££ compared to building a conventional pool
- **Pools can be customised to any size and Shape**
- The blocks have been designed to be built to eurocode2 standard
- **Suitable for both indoor and outdoor pools.**
- Build costs are faster saving time and Money
- **Designed to accept any finish or liner**
- A poured concrete shell you don't need to render.
- **The system is 100% recycled.**



Frequently Asked Questions.....

Do you use a special concrete?

We use a 10mm aggregate which allows the concrete to flow nicely through the formwork.

You can also hand mix cement which is especially useful if you're installing your swimming pool in a restricted area.

Can we build a complete above-ground pool with this system?

It is possible to have a fully above ground pool, which is great for sloping sites or indoor pools.

Is there a risk at the part between the slab and the wall?

If the concrete composition is the correct one and used correctly, there is no risk for this.

The assembly steps are the most important, and this part can be reinforced with a waterproof roll which will inflate if it comes into contact with the water.

Do we need reinforcement from outside the structure?

Nothing is required out of the pool. The structure is self-supporting.

Are we obligated to purchase all products directly with you?

No. The block structure is available exclusively through us.

You are free to choose any supplier for the filtration, pumps and tiling.

Which finishes can be used with your system?

We have blocks for Liner/Reinforced PVC, Mosaic and Polymeric.

Do you have to build to a modular size?

Any size and shape can be built, we always try and build to a full block to make the build easier saving time and waste cutting..

Which shapes are possible?

Every shape is possible with a minimum of 2-meter diameter. You can create small spas, fountains and pools.

Do we need special fittings? The ALS Solid Wall system is

Universal and any fittings can be used on the pool shell.

What is the difference between Assembled and Not-assembled blocks?

You can choose between blocks not-assembled...more blocks in one pallet.

This saves you money on transport however you will have to be assemble the ALS Solid Wall once arrived.

OR...

Assembled clip blocks. You would get less blocks in one pallet and they are more expensive in transport... yet ready to build.

What does a 8x4 pool represent in patters with only blocks?

With not-assembled blocks: about 2 pallets.

With assembled blocks: about 3 pallets.

How long does it take to get the blocks?

Once we have finalised quantities and received payment with the correct postcode we generally have a two week lead time on most orders.

How does the structure last long term?

The structure does not move in the long-term.

The clip blocks are completely filled with concrete and do not have to be removed after.

Where are the blocks made and do you own the product?

The blocks are made in France, in a factory based in Maillat (near Oyonnax approx 1 hour from Lyon).

We are the UK's exclusive reseller of ALS Solid Wall

The blocks are composed out of a material called polypropylene which is injected into a specific mould to a very high temperature.

This material allows us to create a lightweight (3.24kg) and very resistant block.

The product is also infinitely recyclable to help protect the environment.

Can the blocks be insulated?

100mm of insulation on the back of the pool wall will provide a U-Value of 0.21 W/m²K.

Can the blocks be used for indoor pools?

The blocks have been designed to be built to EuroCode2 and are suitable for both indoor and outdoor pools.



Save Time

- Installation times are 50% quicker than traditional construction methods
- Can be built in limited access sites
- The weather wont slow you down

Save Money

- Reduced labour costs and faster construction times reduce overall build costs compared to traditional construction methods



Lightweight

- Each block weighs 3.24kg, a lightweight alternative to traditional heavier blocks
- Easy to handle and less labour intensive



Tiled Block

- The tiled block is available single or double sided.
- The perforated front allows the concrete to be buffed when poured leaving a perfectly smooth face ready for tiling.
- No need for extra rendering costs.



Flexible Block

- Making curved walls easy. Free form pools, ponds or water features could not be easier
- Curves will be precise and smooth, with no render needed to take away any sharp edges
- The Blocks are joined together and simply bent into the desired position, they are then secured in place using the Sole plate



Liner block

- The Liner block is available in two sizes, 440mm and 530mm tall.
- The smooth front to the block gives you a perfectly flat face for the liner to sit on, no need to render the blocks smooth.

