



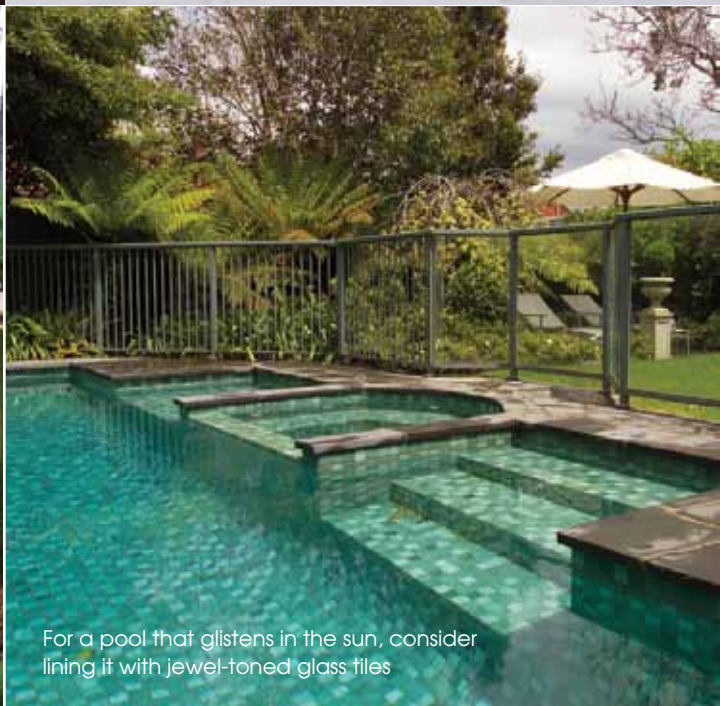
Bright pink and blue lights give this backyard escape designed by Paragon Pools a vibrant and fun feel



Cool grey stone complements a sparkling turquoise pool, designed by Sunset Pools



Lush green plants soften the stone trim of this pool, designed by Sunset Pools



For a pool that glistens in the sun, consider lining it with jewel-toned glass tiles

COLORIFIC Pools IN KATY

Bright Colors Make a Splash in Pool Design

Written by Noreen Stavinoha and Ashley Withers

Festive patio umbrellas can add a splash of tropical color to any landscape





Add a soft golden glow at night with lights rimming the water's edge



Katy residents are turning their swimming pools and spas into custom-designed masterpieces. Using a variety of different colors in lights, materials, patterns, and unique designs, Katy pool owners can turn their backyard oasis into a personalized work of art.

Pools for Personal Expression

Pools aren't just play areas any more. They are also hearthscapes - an extension of one's living space. They can provide the perfect atmosphere for entertaining or can serve as a place to unwind after work. For families, children's play is still an important aspect, but not the only one to consider when deciding on an elegant pool for your home.

Color can play an important role in tailoring any pool to match your family's style and can set the tone for relaxing summer get-togethers and fun splashing around in the sun. As a designer, Leo Kleiweg of Paragon Pools works with Katy residents to build the perfect pool to fit their needs and personalities. While color is an important aspect of any design, he encourages pool owners to keep in mind that tasteful, enduring color and designs will keep your pool looking better for longer. "We've had people ask for [Texas] A&M logos or a Texas longhorn, but we discourage that, because of the drawback they could cause for resale," he says.

Using Color Creatively

Back in the day, pool interiors were usually white or blue, which readily showed signs of stains and soil. Today's interiors come in a wide array of colors and textures. They may be made of jewel-toned glass tiles or a material that gives the illusion of small neutral-colored pebbles lining the pool. "In the sunlight, the tiny white 'pebbles' glisten like diamonds," Kleiweg says. More and more pool owners are also choosing rich, darker interiors that hide stains while

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adding a burst of color to any hearthscape. Jewel-toned glass tiles can be used in many ways to highlight a custom pool. They can be found as accents by the pool's edge to draw attention to the unique shape or even to emphasize clean, straight lines. They can also be used to line the floor of the pool to provide a kaleidoscope of color through the water on a sunny day.

Also surrounding today's pools are stone walls and arches, usually in earth tones to complement the pool and landscaping colors. From an archway over the columns, a sprayer with a rain effect can be installed and kids will jump at the chance to play in "the rain."

Illuminating Your Backyard Paradise

For a splash of summer color, juice up the water in any pool with bright shades of light. Adding color to the water used to mean turning on a color wheel in front of a light and stopping the wheel when it reached the desired shade. Multiple colors could be enjoyed by just keeping the wheel turning.

Today's pools use LED lights, which are energy efficient, and colors are chosen by the simple touch of a button. Want soft blue for a romantic ambiance or a sunny yellow for your cutie's birthday party? You've got it. Copper-colored tile around the pool can create a soft glow when paired with golden light in the spa, and yellow fountains in another part of the pool can be used to illuminate an evening barbecue. Red and green tints add a touch of dramatic flair to fountains spewing from bowls atop stone walls by the pool. Different color combinations make different statements and produce a range of different atmospheres.

Adding color to your pool's design can bring a modern touch to a favorite backyard feature. When combined with colorful lights and

glass or stone tiles, even the lush green of plants can work to soften angles of columns and walls surrounding the pool. Even with the most basic pool design, varying colors and textures can beautify the space and make it stand out, as Tanr Ross of Sunset Pools knows well. "We don't do the 'pools 101' designs of years past," Ross says. "People don't want diving boards, slides, or moss rock waterfalls anymore, so even when simple square or rectangular shapes are chosen, there is nothing about them that resembles a 1980s pool design." **KM**

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KATY POOL

RESOURCES

Aquatico Pools
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