

INSPECTION CHECKLIST

The Pool Crack Walkaround

A ten-minute inspection for Connecticut pool owners. Know what you are looking at before anyone quotes you.

Inside: the width gauge, the pattern guide, and a crack log to fill in

Step 1: read the width

- 1

The fingernail test
If the crack will not catch a fingernail, it is hairline and probably lives in the plaster finish.
- 2

Measure what catches
Anything an eighth of an inch or wider deserves attention. Note the widest point.
- 3

Feel for offset
Run a finger across the crack. If one side sits higher than the other, the shell has moved. That is a structural flag.

Step 2: read the pattern

Pattern	What it usually means
Spiderweb crazing across broad areas	Shrinkage in the plaster. Cosmetic.
Single clean line down a wall or across the floor	The shell talking. Worth a professional look.
Cracks at skimmer, steps, or spa wall	Natural stress points. Watch closely.
Deck and pool cracks that line up	Ground moving both structures. Call sooner, not later.

Step 3: watch for movement

Mark both ends of the crack with a pencil, note the date, and photograph it with a coin for scale. Check back in a month. A crack that grew past the marks, widened, or offset is active, and active cracks do not heal.

Your crack log

	Location	Width	Offset?
Crack 1			
Crack 2			
Crack 3			

Crack plus water loss

If the pool is also losing more than about a quarter inch a day, run the bucket test before any repair. The fix should target the actual problem.

Found a structural flag? Call 860-256-9219.

GS Rose Construction evaluates pool cracks across Connecticut, structure first. If it is only cosmetic, we will tell you that too.