

HOMEOWNER WORKSHEET

The Pool Quote Question Sheet

Nine questions that make two very different quotes finally comparable, and expose the lines a thin bid left out.

Inside: the nine questions, the comparison grid, and the warning signs

Why quotes look so different

Two honest contractors can quote the same pool thousands apart, because they scoped different work. The gap almost always hides in prep, allowances, and what happens when something unexpected turns up. These nine questions drag all of it into the open.

1

What is the prep scope, exactly?

Chip out, full removal, or skim over? Named method, not "prepare surface."

2

What happens to what you find?

Cracks, hollow tile, delamination: stated allowance plus unit prices for beyond it.

3

What material and line, at what thickness?

Brand, product line, and thickness, not just "plaster" or "pebble."

4

What is an allowance versus a fixed price?

Skinny allowances for tile, coping, and equipment become upgrades later.

5

Who handles fill and startup chemistry?

Startup decides how the finish cures. It belongs in the scope, not in your lap.

The rest of the nine

6

What is the timeline, stage by stage?

Days per phase, and what weather does to the plan.

7

What is the payment schedule tied to?

Completed phases, not calendar dates. Payments running ahead of work is the oldest warning sign.

8

Is the expansion joint included?

Deck-to-coping joint work is small money that prevents the biggest repairs.

9

What is warranted, and what voids it?

Get the exclusions in writing, especially around water chemistry.

Your comparison grid

	Quote A	Quote B	Quote C
Prep method	_____	_____	_____
Repair allowance	_____	_____	_____
Material and line	_____	_____	_____
Startup included	_____	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____	_____

The pattern to watch

When one quote is far cheaper, line up the prep language and allowances first. That is where the difference usually lives, and it is the part you feel three years later.

Want a second read on a quote? Call 860-256-9219.

GS Rose Construction will translate any pool quote, ours or a competitor's, line by line. No charge, no pressure to switch.