



## RENOVATE RIGHT. DO IT NOW!

### Transform your old swimming pool into a backyard paradise

Typically, by the age of 15, your pool is ready for a facelift. Over time, the liner becomes dated and faded. The concrete settles and may have hairline cracks. The backyard, which was once an active entertainment centre for children, may be tired and in need of rejuvenation. You may be wondering what to do next.

There are many options for transforming your backyard and older pool into a vibrant staycation hub once again. The first thing to consider is what you want the focus to be. Do you want rest and relaxation? Do you want a more adult environment, now that the kids are older?

Think big, implement small. You can have the backyard you want by making changes all at once, or one summer at a time. Plan, and then execute as you are able. Check out Pinterest, a wonderful online resource for design ideas, which makes it easy to organize and evaluate concepts for feasibility.

Start with the pool liner. It's quick and easy, and has a huge impact on your backyard. Consider installing a different step, or what about that tanning ledge you saw down south? Sometimes small changes make a big difference. Next, update your equipment to energy-efficient models and add automation that allows you to control your lights,

heater and pump all from the comfort of your phone.

Go big! Install a pool cover that's controlled with a key code. What about water features? The sound of water soothes the soul. Or maybe heat it up with a fire feature. Consider a new fire pit or even a mix of fire and water. Take your pool shed to new heights by adding a bathroom, living room or kitchen!

Top off your new retreat with added or updated decking, seating areas and landscaping. Create "rooms" that define different areas. Large planters, trees, and even screens and wooden fences create intimate havens. One of the biggest transformations can be lighting, which is an inexpensive, effective way to add ambience to any backyard retreat.

Incorporating any of these features into your space will enrich your backyard. Renovating right can add value to your life today.

Do it now. Enjoy your backyard. Put a plan in place today so you can execute it next spring. Book contractors in the fall. In the pool industry, the best spots are usually filled by Christmas.

Need a hand with creativity? Give us a call or drop us a line. And if you really want to see how far you can go, check out Pinterest for a wealth of ideas. You'll

have trouble tearing yourself away, once you get started! ■

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**Kara Redden**  
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