

DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE

Below are additional images and information about the construction of the pool.



An artistic rendering provides a overall perspective of the pool and its surroundings. To the right of the pool, with its infinity edge facing west, are the spa and the two slides, the longer of which runs beneath a 20-ton boulder. At the north end of the pool is a gourmet kitchen with attached bathroom and shower that's built over the home's existing master bathroom and closet. A staircase beneath the pool leads to the mechanical room.





ABOVE: One hundred and sixty truckloads of concrete (1,500 cubic yards) were used to construct the structure, which included retaining walls as tall as 32 feet.

LEFT: "The [homeowner] really wanted to honor the desert and the landscape," says builder Jerry Meek, so every plant, from trees and protected saguaros to the smallest cactus, was removed from the mountainside prior to excavation and stored at an off-site nursery. During construction, while the concrete was being poured, the larger plants, such as this tree, were brought back and placed by crane, along with 847 tons of boulders.





ABOVE: Due to the fact that the pool was built on a steep mountain slope with limited access, it had to be constructed in phases. Here, concrete has formed the shallow end of the pool as well as its support walls, while a 300-ton crane, used to lift boulders and plants onto the mountainside above, sits in the unfinished deep end.

RIGHT: "The amount of rebar used was just incredible," says Meek. If laid end to end, the 200,000 pounds of steel reinforcement would measure 28.5 miles. "That's enough to get you from Scottsdale to Carefree," he adds.





LEFT: Concrete reinforced support walls hold back the mountain. According to Meek, the concrete used on this project has a compression strength of 7,000 pounds per square inch. In comparison, the typical footing on a house can be as low as 2,500 psi, he notes. The pool's walls are also designed to withstand the Valley's extreme temperatures

BELOW: "Even our family dog loves to join the fun," says the homeowner about the completed pool. Here, the dog is seen jumping from one of three diving platforms formed from natural flat boulders.





