



Planning for a Hot Tub

Most Commonly Asked Questions



www.pdcspas.com

1-800-451-1420



Why Should I Buy a Hot Tub?

Owning a hot tub is like having a vacation in your own backyard; 24/7! Complete, luxurious relaxation in the comfort of your home. Your PDC Spa is ready at a moments notice, whenever you choose, day or night. Just step out your back door and be pampered with your own personal masseuse. Let the warm swirling waters melt away the tensions of your hectic life and soothe those tired, sore muscles.

Of all the leisure activities you may seek for relaxation, how many can you enjoy every, single day? Regardless of season? Without leaving your house? A hot tub is at the top of the list. Consider the investment of a spa versus other leisure-time products. Think of a power boat; the season is limited and unless you actually live on the water, you have the hassle of travel every time you want to use it. An RV has it's own set of issues; huge price tag, not to mention the cost of fuel, and infrequent use. Family vacations are not what they used to be with today's concerns of flying, scheduling our busy lives to actually get away, and, when the vacation is over, it is over!

With a spa, the cost in relation to the number of uses and the convenience, is a no-brainer. When you envelope your body in warm swirling water under a starry night with your family and friends, you will realize the return on this investment is huge. Add the 35 year warranty that assures a lifetime of reliable enjoyment, and you will wonder why you weren't relaxing in a hot tub long before this.

Where Should I Install the Hot Tub?

Choosing a spot for your spa is a personal choice, although there are many considerations that are common for all spa owners.

- The closer to the house, the better. The easier the access, the more frequent the use. Is there a convenient short path or sidewalk to the hot tub?
- Bathroom location.
- Accessibility. Is it easy to get to for installation? And service? Your owners manual will indicate where the equipment is located behind the cabinet walls and it should remain easy to get to for possible service. Review that section before permanently placing the spa.
- Privacy. Is it in direct eye-view of the neighbors? Visible, or not visible, from certain areas of the home.
- Type of use. Will you use your new spa personally; near the master bedroom, or is it intended to be enjoyed by the whole family and your friends? If so, the hot tub may fit better on the center of your deck for all to use and enjoy.



- **Aesthetics.** Consider the design of your home and backyard environment. Where will it look the best and complement your home?
- **Landscaping.** Large trees that shed their leaves in the autumn may create debris in the spa water while you use your spa during that time of the year. You may want to consider another location without that concern and also keep in mind flowers and shrubs that may deter rather than enhance the spa area.
- A flat, level surface is required for your spa to rest on. You may want to consider the best spot in your yard to accommodate this.
- Over-head phone and electrical lines should not be near or above the spa.
- **Indoor Installations.** Most hot tubs are installed outside on a deck or patio and a screened porch or a sunroom and additional questions need to be considered. Remember that the more people you have in the spa, the more water is displaced onto your floor. Consider the type of flooring and other materials nearby that may be damaged by water. There should also be adequate drainage for spillage and the unlikely event of complete spa drainage. Ventilation should also be a consideration, as moisture is introduced into the air with each spa use much like a bathroom. The use of fans or vents may be used to allow the heat and moisture to escape.
- **Child access.** Your new hot tub will have a locking thermal cover that meets or exceeds the ASTM cover safety standards. The cover must be in place and locked when not in use and the spa should never be used by unattended children. Consider the view of the hot tub from the home to keep an eye on children and uninvited guests.
- **Local and National Codes.** Your new hot tub must be installed in accordance to all applicable codes. You may want to contact your local office for an update on those regulations as they may help in deciding the appropriate location.
- **Electrical Considerations.** Your PDC Spa® requires a 120/240v/50 amp or 120/240/40 amp breaker for single pump systems and a quick disconnect installed at least 5 and within 15 feet of the spa. Contact a qualified electrician for this connection and consider the location and available amperage of your current electrical service for the best location of the new spa. (Refer to the “Electrical” section in this guide for further information.)

How Do I Prepare the Location for my New Spa?

A flat, level surface strong enough to support your spa is required. Once your spa is filled, it may weigh a great deal. Most units are installed outside, on ground level, on either a concrete pad or strong wooden deck. If the spa is not on ground level, have a builder determine if the support is adequate. If the unit is placed directly on the ground, you will want to remove the grassy level, and place a layer of gravel on the soil. The best way to level the gravel is with a 2 x 4 to achieve a level surface. Pavers placed in a sand base is also a rather quick and convenient way to prepare the location site. Be sure your dimensions your correct as you prepare the site. Refer to www.pdcspas.com or call our toll free number for dimensions of your model. Allow a perimeter of this surface to extend beyond the spa itself for a clean area for users to get in and out of the spa.



[Do I Need Plumbing for the Hot Tub?](#)

There is no requirement for permanent plumbing to the spa. You simply fill with a garden hose and empty with a garden hose. This should be done at least once a year to maintain optimum chemical balance in the spa water. You may find a spigot on the outside cabinet wall of your spa for easy emptying and the access of this spigot should be considered during time of installation.

[What Color of Spa Should I Choose?](#)

Remember, that you only see the color of the spa when you are using it. What you see from your home is the unit with the cover on. Select the color of your spa for the color you want your spa to be, and choose either the Natural or Slate cabinet and matching spa cover for how it will complement the rest of the area. Granite finishes are touted to be the easier to clean, although all of the acrylic colors are durable and resistant to scratching.

[What Electrical Connections are Required?](#)

Your new hot tub must be installed in accordance with all local and national electrical codes. It must be connected by a licensed, qualified electrician with a GFCI circuit breaker which is recommended to test prior to each use. Keep this in mind when you choose the positioning of the spa so that the GFCI can easily be accessed. Your spa requires a 120/240v/50 amp or 120/240v/40 amp breaker for single pump systems and a quick-disconnect at least 5 and within 15 feet of the spa. Refer to the Owners Manual, accompanied with your new spa, or on the website.

[How Time Consuming is the Water Maintenance?](#)

Your new hot tub is designed to provide relaxation, not another chore. Compared to a pool, the water care is virtually maintenance-free. The PDC Spas are available with ozone, a natural sanitizing agent, through a very efficient and advanced corona discharge system. The ozone oxidizes contaminants and returns clean water into the spa through two ozone jets in the foot area of the spa. You will notice a clean "after-rain" smell indicating that the ozone system is hard at work. The pressure-side filtration system uses the power of the jet pump to force dirty water through the fine pleats of the filter cartridge trapping impurities and returning the polished water back into the spa. These two features make caring for your spa simple. You will have to test for PH, and add a sanitizing agent; bromine or chlorine, after heavy use. Primarily, other than that, open the cover and relax. Your spa will be clean and ready whenever you are.

[How Do I Prepare for Delivery?](#)

PDC Spas are normally delivered by your retail store personnel. Contact them to confirm adequate personnel to deliver your spa to the desired site. Unwrap the spa before delivery personnel leave the premises to check for any missing accessories or possible damage during shipping. To make the delivery as easy as possible, consider any obstructions in route to the new spa area such as trees, gates, fences, overhead lines, gutters, utility meters, etc. You may want to consider uneven slopes to the area that will require more time and labor to get your spa in place. For inside installs, consider stairways and narrow halls.