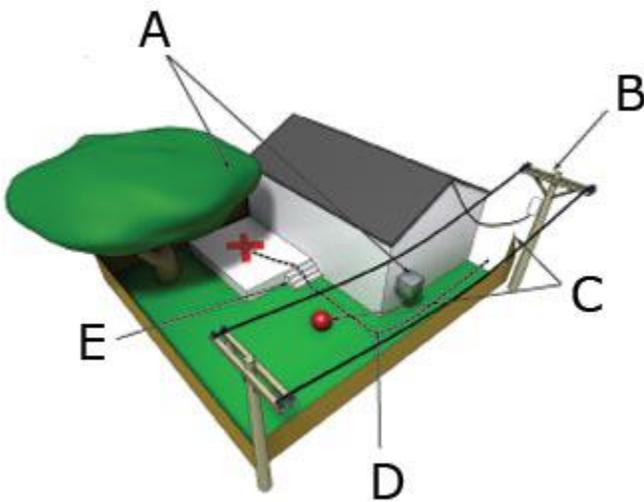


Hot Tub Pre-Delivery Guide

To prepare for the delivery of your hot tub, make sure the delivery path is clear and no obstructions are present. Obstacles such as overhanging tree limbs, awnings, protruding gas meters, water meters, and A/C units can prevent easy access. It may be necessary to remove a gate, part of a fence, or other items in order to dolly the spa to the desired location. If there are more than six consecutive stairs without a landing, you may be required to find another delivery path. Check the measurements on 90° turns to make sure the spa will fit through. Occasionally a crane is required to install the spa by lifting it to its final destination. This occurs when the spa has to be taken off of the dolly cart to go over a wall, either because the entry area is too narrow, the eaves are too low, the corner is too tight, or the stairway is too steep. The use of a crane is a common practice and is usually the easiest and safest method for moving a spa when access is difficult. The crane has a truck-mounted boom and can fit easily in your driveway. The Crane Operator will lift your spa over walls, buildings, or any other obstruction and place it as close to the installation site as possible.



A - Obstacles such as overhanging tree limbs, awnings, protruding gas meters, water meters, and A/C units can prevent easy access.

B - **WARNING:** Watch for power lines.

C - It may be necessary to remove a gate, part of a fence, or other items in order to dolly the spa to the desired location.

D - Check the measurements on 90° turns to make sure the spa will fit through.

E - If there are more than six consecutive stairs without a landing, you may be required to find another delivery path.

Depending on access to the spa site, your spa may be dollied in either horizontal or vertical position. For your convenience, the following charts provide the dimensions of your spa in either the horizontal or vertical position. **NOTE:** The height of the cart used to dolly your spa into position will

need to be added to the height of your spa when calculating the total height clearance required to complete your delivery. Spa carts are typically around 6" (15.24cm) in height. (If necessary, see your authorized Bullfrog Spa dealer for the exact height.)

How to Install a Hot Tub: Expert Tips & Instructions



So you've **designed your perfect spa** and have already started planning a life of relaxation, better health and fun in your brand new hot tub. But now, in order to make the most out of your new hot tub, it's important to install it properly. In this article, we'll cover industry best practices for selecting a hot tub site, preparing for delivery, installation options, and hot tub set up instructions.

Selecting a Site for Your Hot Tub

Selecting the perfect spot on your property for your new spa is extremely important to your overall spa experience. Where you place the spa not only affects things like **longevity and durability** but also your spa's environment, your view from the spa and the overall aesthetics of your backyard. Here are a few considerations when selecting a site.

Indoors or Outdoors, Where to Install Your Hot Tub?

The first question you need to ask yourself is whether you're going to place your hot tub indoors or outdoors. Both options offer a unique spa experience and come with their own benefits and challenges. Both are certainly possibilities. Outdoor installations are the most common. They are also typically the easiest.

With an indoor spa, you benefit from privacy and super easy access. You also avoid all kinds of potential weather issues—no dashing across the yard in the cold snow in the dead of winter! In addition, indoor spas make it easy to accommodate guests, as they can simply change just down the hall. On the other hand, if installed improperly, humidity, overspill or emitted gasses could accumulate and damage your home's woodwork, structure or wall finishes. That said, an indoor spa installation is relatively simple to accommodate, as long as you plan ahead.

Outdoor installations offer incredible views, simple installation, hard water-safe surfaces, as well as plenty of ventilation for the humidity a spa can produce. Installing your hot tub outdoors may offer a bit less privacy, but it can also be more enjoyable if you're looking to host outdoor parties with a large group of friends and family.

Tips for How to Install a Hot Tub Indoors

The very first thing you must do if you plan on an indoor hot tub installation is to ensure that the area in your home where you plan to install a spa is structurally sufficient to hold the weight of a filled spa and spa users. Ground floor installations are recommended but you may also be able to install a smaller **2 person hot tub** on upper floors with adequate structural support. Always consult a licensed engineer prior to installation for structural recommendations.

To protect your home from potential water damage, be sure to inspect the flooring in your installation area. We highly recommend water proof flooring with a floor drain or catch basin able to accommodate a volume equivalent to the amount water in your spa. This will protect your home from

any overflow, splashing or (very rare, but possible) leaks. In addition, choose flooring materials that are non-slip and resilient to sanitizing chemical exposure—concrete, wood, non-slip tile, and linoleum are all potential choices.

Once you choose a flooring material, ensure that the area you have selected has adequate ventilation to the outside. Ventilation fans and large windows that may be opened for cross-ventilation are best. Be sure to select wall and ceiling surfaces that can sufficiently accommodate higher than normal humidity, such as tiles or moisture-resistant paints. A ceiling fan or dehumidifier is also highly recommended to help disperse and control humidity while using your spa. Check with an architect or home ventilation expert if you have any questions or concerns about controlling humidity in your indoor space.

Tips for Outdoor Hot Tub Installation



For outdoor installations it's always best to carefully consider the location of your hot tub first. Begin by considering the following areas to avoid when selecting a site:

- It's always best to avoid areas with excessive water exposure (areas in the path of sprinklers or under roof edges without rain gutters)
- Avoid areas of direct, prolonged sunlight where possible to avoid fading of hot tub exterior surfaces and possible damage. Also check for strong reflected light from windows and glass doors (check the area throughout the day as sun angles change) and avoid these areas.
- Check local and national codes for fencing and childproof gate requirements around the spa.

- Avoid positioning the spa in an area where dirt and debris would be tracked into the spa. Wherever possible, provide a stone, concrete, or paver path to the spa site.

Once you've determined the areas of your yard to avoid, next consider the areas that have characteristics that will enhance your spa experience. Depending on your personal preferences, you may want your spa to be near an entrance to your house for convenience, or you may prefer that your spa is set away from your home for the feeling of escape to a special retreat. You will want to consider both the privacy and the view of scenery and the sky from your hot tub site to make the most of your spa experience. Sometimes the area with the most privacy, like a covered patio or under a deck, may not provide the best views. This is where **pergolas and gazebos** are often very nice compromises. These types of structures offer some protection and privacy but don't inhibit your views too much. They can be set off in an area of your yard that is quiet and make a great decorative addition to your landscape.

When selecting your installation location it's also important to consider electrical wiring logistics. Most hot tubs are hard wired by an electrician and the longer the run of wire to the spa the more it can cost in materials and labor.

Spa Foundation

Once you've determined whether your spa will go indoors or outdoors, it's time to address the spa's foundation. For both indoor and outdoor spas, you will need a structurally sound flat surface that is reasonably level. What does "reasonably level" mean? While it's okay to have a slightly sloped pad (most patios are built to slope away from the house), there should be no dips, sags, or unevenness in the pad. We recommend that there should be no more than a ½" slope per 8" run.

When looking for a level surface area, also consider the weight requirements for the space. A filled hot tub can weigh as much as 6,000 pounds, not including the weight of the occupants. If you're looking to install your spa on a deck or other elevated structure, consult with a qualified structural engineer or contractor before installation.

If you're not placing your spa on an existing patio or deck, one of several other foundation or flooring options are recommended: concrete pads, concrete pavers, concrete bricks, compacted pea gravel, or compacted crushed rock. Please note that concrete foundations should be a minimum of 4" thick and should be reinforced with either rebar or mesh and attached to bond wire for electrical grounding purposes.

Utility Requirements and Access

Make sure to select a location within reach of power and with access to a proper drain or outdoor drainage area. Make sure that you have the proper wiring in place prior to installation. Check with both local and national wiring rules and a licensed electrician for logistical advice and requirements specific to your area. Also, as you're finalizing your spa's location, be sure that the spa is positioned so that access to the equipment compartment will not be blocked.

Design Considerations



While it's important to consider the structural requirements when selecting a hot tub site, it's also equally important to consider the aesthetics of your chosen installation location.

When choosing base materials, consider textures and colors that will complement your spa and your surrounding landscaping. Adding planters and garden landscaping nearby can soften the hard edges of your spa and add a touch of color. A landscape architect can offer great insight into incorporating your hot tub into your overall backyard design.

Preparing for Delivery

Once you've selected the perfect site for your new hot tub, you're now ready to prepare the site for a smooth and efficient delivery.

The first step is to clear the delivery path so that it's clear of obstacles and obstructions, such as overhanging tree limbs, awnings, gas and water meters, and A/C units. In order to get the spa to its desired location, it may be necessary to remove a gate or part of the fence. If your delivery path involves more than six consecutive steps without a landing or turns that are too tight, you may need to choose a different delivery path. Before your delivery date, check the measurements on 90-degree turns to make sure the spa will fit through.

A crane may occasionally be required to lift the spa over your house to its final installation location. While it may sound extreme, it's actually a common practice and is sometimes the easiest and safest delivery method, particularly if you otherwise risk property damage.

Final Installation of Your Hot Tub

Once your spa is safely delivered, it's time for the final installation procedures like electrical wiring, filling, and start up chemicals. Because of the specific electrical and technical requirements involved in installing a spa, Bullfrog Spas recommends that you always have a licensed electrician perform the electrical installation. Detailed electrical installation instructions can be found in your hot tub's [owner's manual](#).



The installation of all spas must be in accordance with national and local wiring rules. Each Bullfrog Spa is manufactured and tested to a standard that provides maximum protection against electrical shock, and it is critical that your spa be installed correctly to protect against dangerous malfunction.

Operation of your new hot tub will vary according to model. Your **Authorized Hot Tub Dealer** can help you get the basic operations down in no time. Hot tub sanitation procedures can also vary according to the water type in your location. Your dealer will be a valuable resource in setting up your spa with the right chemicals for your area. Contact your dealer at any time for questions on operation or hot tub water care. For specifics on filling your hot tub, starting and setting up your control panel, you may also reference [your owner's manual](#).

Sit Back, Relax and Enjoy

Once your hot tub has been professionally installed, you're ready to enjoy the fun and relaxation that comes with years of happy hot tub ownership.