

 **VITA**spa

VITALITY FOR LIFE



HOT TUB BUYER'S GUIDE



What makes certain hot tubs “better” than others?

Like many products and services, you have the ability to shop around for the best hot tub to fit your budget and needs.

You will be surprised to know that not all hot tubs are the same. In the hot tub category itself there are two types of hot tubs: portable hot tubs and in-ground spas. A portable hot tub is manufactured with all the equipment required for operational use (pumps, heaters, filters, etc), and requires no plumbing on site when it is delivered to your home. Once delivered, it is attached to your home with an electrical connection and if you move, the tub can be moved with you.

This differs from an in-ground spa because once an in-ground spa is built into your backyard it is designed to stay with the house.



Getting Started



Before you walk into your local hot tub dealer for the first time or make any purchasing decisions, we highly recommend you do some research on the models you were initially drawn to.



If you have been thinking about buying a hot tub for some time and don't really know where to begin your search, a great place to start is by searching for your local hot tub dealers. Benefits of buying from a local hot tub dealer are that you can see, touch, and test the hot tub you are buying before you purchase.

Ultimately, your local dealer will be the one installing, servicing, and answering all questions about your hot tub, so trusting them is crucial.

IMPORTANT FACTORS WHEN CHOOSING A LOCAL DEALER

BUSINESS

How long have they been in business, and how long have they sold the brand you are interested in?

Stay away from dealers that consistently change the brands they sell. It would also be helpful to know why they chose to sell this brand.

SITE INSPECTION

Are they willing to come to your house and provide a site inspection at little to no cost?

A site inspection is necessary for a dealer to assess delivery and installation options. A dealer should be thorough regarding the inspection to ensure a successful installation.

SERVICE

Do they service the products they sell?

Great dealers stand behind the products they sell. Be sure to find a dealer that provides year-round service so you can enjoy your hot tub in complete confidence.

Do Your Research

Once you have selected your most trusted local hot tub dealer, begin researching the hot tub manufacturers they have available. Here are some things to consider when evaluating manufacturers:

EASE OF MAINTENANCE

A hot tub designed for easy maintenance will save you time and money. Please keep in mind a hot tub, like any other appliance, will require regular maintenance and occasional replacement parts. This is not something to be alarmed about.

WARRANTY

The length of warranty is just as important as the manufacturer supporting the warranty. A good rule of thumb is to make sure that the manufacturer has been in business long enough to support the warranties they are providing.

SAFETY STANDARDS

Make sure that the hot tub you are choosing is UL listed like any other electrical appliance. The UL listing states the product is safe to use and meets the required safety standards.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Find a manufacturer that requires their dealers to service the product as well. Be mindful of where you install your hot tub to make sure there is easy access for servicing the internal components, this will save you money in the long run when your hot tub needs maintenance.

COST OF OPERATION

Make sure the model you choose meets the industry energy standards. The method and type of insulation, quality of cover, and type of energy saving components will assist in making your hot tub the most energy efficient and cost effective.

COMPONENTS

Research the overall quality of the different components that go into your spa. Components to keep your eye out for are *spa shell, internal frame, exterior cabinet material, heater, pumps, blower, filtration system, insulation, and cover.

*spa shell is a critical component.

Select a Brand

After choosing your dealer and manufacturer, it's time to select your brand as the final stage of purchasing your hot tub! Consider these five aspects when deciding:

Focus on your desires and envision how they can be achieved by owning a hot tub. With your hot tub are you looking for a place to relax, the perfect venue to connect with others, a place to entertain your friends or warm-water therapy that promotes health benefits? It's all about you.

Preferences for your hot tub selection. What size and shape will work best for your needs?

Consider the special features available in a hot tub. How many jets will you need or want? What about Bluetooth stereo, touch screen controls, waterfalls and illuminated controls? Are programmable filter cycles and automated sanitizing systems a must? Do you want multiple seating options in your spa, maybe consider a lounge seat or deep seats for tall hot tub users.

From deck to patio, there's a hot tub for almost any setting. Decide on the hot tub features that will enhance your hot tub environment. Will it run quietly and efficiently? What landscaping or fencing will need to be done to complete the picture?

Consider affordability. With hundreds of styles and options to choose from, there's truly a hot tub for every budget. Lucky for us hot tubs are more cost-effective in time and money than ever before! Energy efficiency and ease of maintenance is key when calculating your cost of ownership.

