

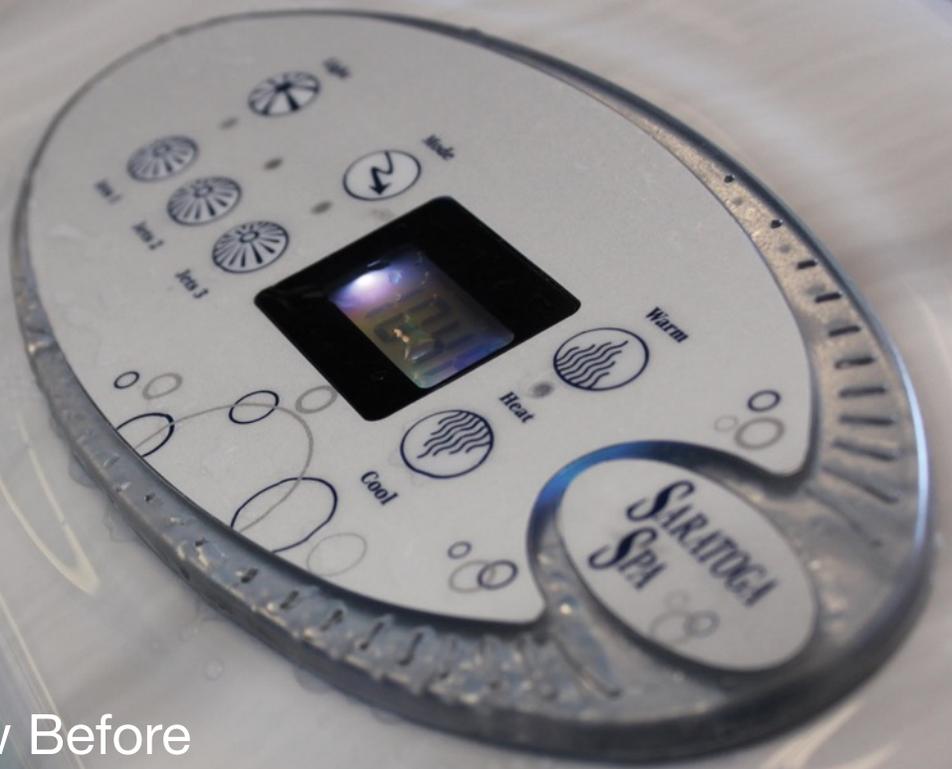
# HOT TUB

## Buyer's Guide

**LBI** Pools and Spas



What You Must Know Before  
Purchasing Any Hot Tub!





## **ENJOY YOUR NEW HOT TUB FOR YEARS TO COME**

If you are like most hot tub buyers. You are looking for the best hot tub for your specific needs, at the best price that will provide years of relaxation and enjoyment for you, your family and your friends. But before you purchase the first hot tub you see, please keep in mind that hot tubs are a significant investment and your hot tub purchase should be well researched and evaluated. When determining the best hot tub for your lifestyle the information can be confusing. We created this hot tub buyer's guide to help you see through the bubbles, eliminate the confusion, and be a guide to choosing the perfect hot tub for you and your family. Our goal is to help ensure you purchase the best quality hot tub that will pay you back in health benefits, quality family time and fun for years to come.

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# The 15 Questions You Need To Ask Before Purchasing Your New Hot tub



*The Better The Questions You Ask, The Better The Answers You Receive*



## Question 1

What is the overall size of a hot tub and will it fit in my yard?

Most hot tubs are square and between 6 and 8 feet in external dimensions. The larger the spa, the more people it will generally accommodate. It's good to measure the space where you intend to place your hot tub before shopping. Also, keep in mind it's sometimes necessary to leave an additional space of 1 to 2 feet around at least 1 to 2 sides of the spa to accommodate accessories like cover lifters and to allow for access. [LBI Pools and Spas offers a FREE Site inspection that will help you avoid the most common – and costly – mistakes by providing expert advice on the selection, placement, and operation of your hot tub. We want you to be 100% confident in your decision to purchase your hot tub.](#)

## Question 2

How many people should my hot tub seat?

Hot tubs come in sizes that accommodate anywhere from 2 to 10 people. Your intended use will determine how many people you need your hot tub to accommodate. A common size seats 5 or 6 people. However, if you are just using it for yourself and another guest or two, a small hot tub with a capacity of 2 to 3 will be perfect. If you are looking for something you and your kids or a group of friends can enjoy together, look for a spa that fits 8 or more people. [LBI Pools and Spas are exclusive dealers for the Saratoga Spas line of luxury hot tubs which seat anywhere from 2 -10 people.](#)

## Question 3

Where is the hot tub manufactured?

Some hot tubs are made in countries known for cheap labor and few environmental regulations in order to decrease production costs. But it is wise to beware of hot tubs made outside of the U.S. and Canada. In addition to environmental and worker's rights issues, quality control is often less strict, less experienced staff from high turnover, which all translate into a much lower quality product. [Every hot tub sold by LBI Pools and Spas is proudly manufactured in the United States.](#)

## Question 4

Does anything come with a hot tub when you buy it?

Most hot tubs come nearly ready for immediate enjoyment. Just add water. You will need to ensure that you have the appropriate space and electrical source (dedicated 220/240v 30/50a circuit) and a nearby water source (hose). Most spas come with a cover and most spa dealers can provide a water care starter kit. [When you purchase a hot tub from LBI Pools and Spas you will receive a protective cover and a water maintenance starter kit. Our FREE site inspection will ensure that you have everything you need to get started enjoying your new hot tub on the day of installation.](#)

## Question 5

How much does it cost to run a hot tub?

The actual power consumption and cost can vary depending on the quality of your spa, how well it is insulated, how efficiently it operates, how often you use the hot tub, how cold your climate is, and the utility rates in your area. It is reasonable to expect an increase of \$20 to \$50 monthly for most quality spas, and much more for cheaper units. [Saratoga Spas are manufactured to be one of the most energy efficient hot tubs on the market. Saratoga Spas help keep the heat in with their Luxury full foam insulation system.](#)

## Question 6

Are there any special electrical requirements to run a hot tub ?

Yes, there are special electrical requirements but they are fairly standard for most hot tubs. Most upper-end spas will require 220/240v 30/50A circuit. You will usually need to hire an electrician to wire your hot tub before it can be used. Depending on codes where you live, an electrician can either hook up the tub once it's delivered, or set up the wires ahead of time. Some hot tub companies can help you finalize the wiring when your tub is delivered. [LBI Pools and Spas's FREE site inspection will help you determine if any additional electrical requirements are needed and any additional cost. LBI Pools and Spas has a licensed electrical company that can professionally perform any required electrical work.](#)

Be aware that hiring an electrician and running the appropriate wiring, although standard, can cost between \$500 and \$1,000, on average. Make sure you factor this cost into your budget.



## Question 7

What is the hot tub made of?

The shell or the hot tub itself in most quality hot tubs are made with acrylic. Acrylic is a hard durable plastic that is resistant to chemical and UV damage. Some cheaper hot tubs are made of rotary molded plastics, like a kayak or portable table. Ask your dealer which brands offer the best quality and identify which brands to steer away from.

The cabinet or exterior of a hot tub in older hot tubs were often made of wood. Today, most quality cabinets are made of a durable synthetic material. The cabinet will be exposed to the elements and probably a bit of moisture and steam. If it isn't something durable, it can lead to a lot of maintenance, fading, warping, replacement issues, and headaches. [All the hot tubs offered by Saratoga Spas and LBI Pools and Spas offer the finest construction including a tri layer acrylic shell system that is rock solid with built in durability and weather all cabinets that are no stain, no splinter and no problem.](#)

## Question 8

What type of motor or pump does the hot tub have?

Pump motors will either be single-phase or 3-phase. Generally, 3-phase motors are more expensive up front, but are cheaper to maintain and run, which is why you will find them in most modern tubs. [All the hot tubs offered by Saratoga Spas and LBI Pools and Spas offer the finest 3 phase pumps designed to be energy efficient and maintenance free.](#)

## Question 9

What maintenance does a spa require?

Most spas require a few minutes weekly to check and adjust water sanitizer levels and an hour or so every few months to clean and/or replace the spa water and filters. Otherwise, maintenance includes occasional cleaning of spa surfaces and spa cover. [LBI Pools and Spas offers everything you will need to keep your hot tub clean and fresh including any chemicals, cleaners or our exclusive valet maintenance service.](#)

## Question 10

What type of water care system does it use?

There are a few types of water care systems including direct chemical application (most common), cartridge systems, ultraviolet/ozon sanitizers, and salt chlorine generators. Ozone and UV are supplemental filtration systems. These systems help the chemical systems keep the water sanitized. Salt water systems operate by converting salt compounds into chlorine. The salt can be corrosive to the pump and seals and can decrease the life of some of the spa components. [Saratoga Spas revolutionary circulation system cleanses and warms the water constantly, efficiently and practically soundless.](#)

## Question 11

How long has the the hot tub brand been in business?

Nobody wants to deal with a “fly by night” company that may or may not be in business next year. If a company has put time and effort into building a reputable business, then their spas generally match their reputation. [Saratoga Spas has been building the highest quality hot tubs for over 30 years right here in the United States.](#)

## Question 12

What will be the final out the door price?

It's good to find out up-front what your total bill will be including tax and any other fees, additional supplies, and system upgrades before you make your purchase. Many people choose to finance their purchase through their bank or an in-store financing option. [LBI Pools and Spas pricing will include everything you need from start to finish. You will have No hidden costs and No surprises. This is very important but even more important if you are on a tight budget or plan to finance your new hot tub](#)



## Question 13

What warranties does the hot tub have ?

Major components of a spa often come with different warranties, so it can sometimes be difficult to compare the warranties directly. Ask on which hot tub brand the dealer gets the fewest service and warranty calls. [Saratoga Spas hot tubs are backed by one of the strongest warranties in the industry.](#)

## Question 14

If I have a problem with my hot tub, who will service it?

This is one of the most important questions you can ask. While a quality hot tub needs service far less than a less expensive hot tub by a lesser manufacturer, things do happen and you need to know how it will be handled. This is really where the large retailers like Home Depot, Loews and Costco really fall short. Purchasing a hot tub from a dealer that offers manufacturer certified service is highly recommended. [In the unlikely event that you have a problem with your hot tub, LBI Pools and Spas has a manufacturer trained service staff supplied with in stock manufacturer parts ready to help get your hot tub back up and running.](#)

## Question 15

What is the cost for delivery and installation ?

Many hot tub purchasers are unaware of potential additional costs relating to installation of a spa. An electrician, landscaper, additional labor and/or additional services may be required to deliver and install your spa. Talk to your dealer about these items so you can be prepared when you decide to purchase your hot tub. [LBI Pools and Spas offers FREE delivery on any hot tub and a \\$350 installation fee for placement, connection and start up.](#)

# The 10 Things You Must Know Before Choosing Your New Hot tub



LBI Pools and Spas



## [The 10 Things You Must Know Before Purchasing A Hot Tub!](#)

1. The height of the tallest person in your family or anyone that will be enjoying your hot tub.
2. The maximum amount of people that will be enjoying your hot tub at one time.
3. The size of the designated area where your hot tub will be installed. [LBI Pools and Spas offers a FREE site inspection to help you.](#)
4. The distance and location of the nearest electrical supply and access to water. [LBI Pools and Spas offers a FREE site inspection to help you.](#)
5. Your budget, What is the most you want to spend. Are you going to be paying cash or financing your new hot tub.



6. What you are going to be using the hot tub for? For example, Stress Relief, Medical reasons or just for fun).
7. If you need a hot tub with specific jet placement to relieve pain or stress in a certain area of your body.
8. What options appeal to you? For example, lighting, sound system, salt water
9. What is most important to you? Price or quality
10. You need to know who you are buying from. [LBI Pools and Spas has hundreds of satisfied customers, a great reputation and the knowledge you need when making your hot tub purchase.](#)

# The 5 Mistakes Most Hot tub Buyer's Make



*Your Key To Knowing What Is Really Important When Buying A Hot tub!*

## MISTAKE #1

### Thinking that Jet Count Is the way to compare hot tubs?

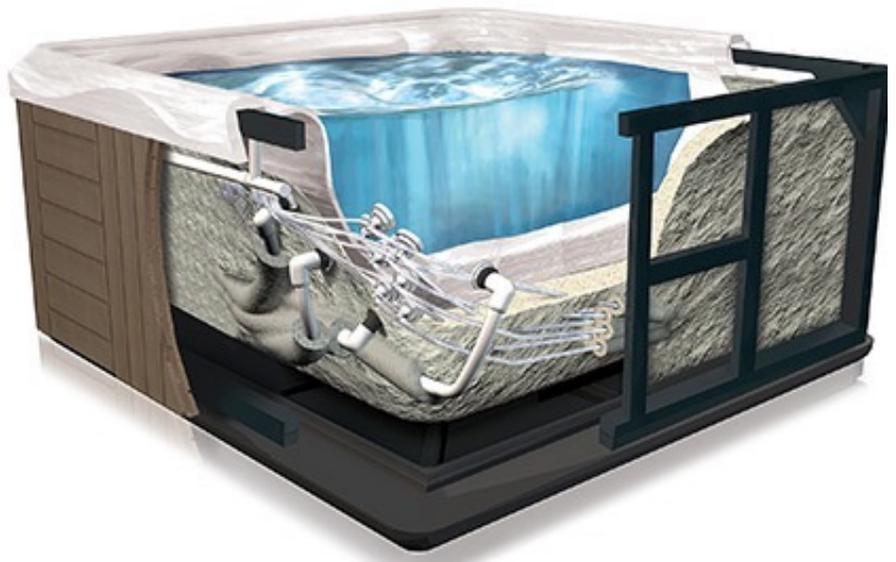
Jet Count in a hot tub is one of the biggest misconceptions today. Many people researching hot tubs start out by counting jets. While this is a way to compare a spa by the numbers, it can be very misleading. Hot tub jets come in various sizes and flow rates. Just because a spa has lots of jets doesn't mean it is better. In fact it is probably the opposite. Higher quality spa manufacturers focus more on giving their spas a variety of jets rather than on quantity and strategically place them for the best experience. The reason is when a spa has more jet variety the user will get a different massage with every different kind of jet. Better spas allow the user the ability to control the water flow and pressure which delivers a better spa experience. Many inferior manufactures play the numbers game since it is actually cheaper to put in a bunch of small jets but they get the benefit of being able to say they have "more jets". This high jet count will in turn provide a less stimulating experience in the hot tub. Higher quality hot tubs usually have lower jet counts but improved jet size and quality..



## MISTAKE # 2

### Only looking at the outside of a hottub

A second mistake that is common among hot tub buyers is only looking at the outside of the hot tub instead of asking about what is inside. The fun should not end when the electric bill arrives. Make sure that the hot tub has proper insulation and can withstand the climate. In colder climates, it is recommended to have full foam insulation. Full foam insulation give the best protection a hot tub needs. It will not only save you money on your electric bill, it also provides extra structure for interior plumbing.



### MISTAKE # 3

#### **Buying a Hot Tub from a Home Show, Online or from a large box store**



This is probably one of the biggest mistakes a spa buyer can make. Products sold online or from box stores like Home Depot and Costco or at home shows can be a great deal as long as they will not need any service after delivery. That is simply not the case with a hot tub. Hot tubs are generally outside in the elements 12 months a year. They have hot water running through them 24/7 and consist of various motors, heaters and moving parts. Buying from these outlets or online usually becomes a very frustrating experience if service is needed. Buying a hot tub is NOT

like buying a car where you can take it to any dealer for service. In fact, most dealers only service the spas they sell or charge very high prices to service spas they do not sell. The perception of a “great deal” will be long gone if service is ever needed and who has the time for that.

### MISTAKE # 4

#### **Not Trying It Before You Buy It**

Most customers go out and buy a hot tub without even getting into it and seeing if they like it first. Compare that to buying a car without sitting in it. A hot tub is something that will last many years and it is important to avoid the mistake of getting a hot tub which has jets that are not comfortable. Many customers are convinced which model they are going to purchase before a test soak and end up buying a completely different hot tub after they test different tubs. At [LBI Pools and Spas](#) we always welcome you to test soak before you buy. Contact us to set up an appointment today to try our hot tubs and decide which one is best for you.



## MISTAKE # 5

### Not Getting Service After The Sale

Purchasing a hot tub is an investment that will provide fun and relaxation for years. It is important to purchase a hot tub from a dealer that provides service before and after the purchase. With a full time team of certified spa specialists and a knowledgeable sales team, [LBI Pools and Spas](#) stands behind each and every hot tub that leaves our store.



LBI Pools and Spas



# Not All Hot tubs Are Created Equal

## Hot Tub Comparison

### HOT TUB COMPARISON

#### Hot Tub Brands

Name	Shell	Exterior Skirting	Insulation	Quality of Materials	Jets Performance	Quality Control	Pricing	Customer Service	Warranty	Final Grade
Saratoga Spas	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	10	10	<b>A</b>
Dynasty Spas	9	9	9	8	8	5	6	4	6	D
Sundance Spas	10	10	10	8	9	7	8	9	10	B
Master Spas	10	10	10	9	10	7	8	8	9	B
Life Smart Spas	10	9	8	8	7	9	9	8	9	C
Bull Frog Spas	10	9	10	10	9	9	7	9	9	B
Dimension One Spas	6	10	10	8	9	7	7	9	10	C
Jacuzzi Spas	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	<b>A</b>
Caldera Spas	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	<b>A</b>
Superior Spas	10	9	7	8	9	7	9	8	9	C
Viking Spas	7	8	7	9	9	10	10	8	10	C
Hot Springs	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	<b>A</b>
Therma Spas	7	9	9	9	9	9	6	5	10	C
Cal Spas	10	9	10	10	10	10	7	8	10	B
Marquis Spas	10	9	10	8	9	7	7	9	9	C

[poolsandspasratings.com](http://poolsandspasratings.com)

#### Grade Scale

FROM	TO	GRADE
86	90	A
80	85	B
70	79	C
60	69	D
Below	59	F



# CONCLUSION



A hot tub is one of the most rewarding purchases you can make for yourself and your loved ones. Relaxing in a hot tub is probably the best way to release stress and tension, share quality time with your loved-ones, or to simply take time to soak up the outdoors in the comfort of your backyard. Heat, water and massage substantially improve your mental and physical health, relationships and overall happiness — helping you to feel your very best. We at [LBI Pools and Spas](#) hope that this buyer's guide helps you find the perfect hot tub for you and your family for years to come.

This Hot Tub Buyer's Guide was brought to you by LBI Pools and Spas



*Come See Our Hot tub Showroom at*

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