

SPA PREPARATION GUIDE



**GUIDELINES TO SIMPLIFY YOUR SPA
DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION**



1-800-451-1420
www.pdcspas.com



CONGRATULATIONS! on the purchase of your new hot tub.
This PDC Spa is designed for countless years of enjoyment, offering relaxation and an asset to your home and lifestyle.

Please take the time to carefully read this guide as it has been provided to offer tips for safe and efficient delivery and installation. This guide should never take the place of your Owners Manual, but to be reviewed in conjunction with it. There are sections in this guide regarding delivery, site selection and preparation, electrical requirements, and general considerations for preparation.

Always read and refer to the Owners Manual that will be sent with your spa, with additional copies available on the web site: www.pdcspas.com.

Take note of the safety label on the spa cabinet and the copy in your Owner's packet, of which should be displayed within view of the spa. Take note of the serial number location for possible future reference.
The serial number can be found inside the top load filter housing on the spa lip.



PDC Spas®
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Consider Applicable Codes and Permits

Most cities and boroughs require permits for the installation of electrical circuits or the construction of exterior surfaces; decks, sunrooms, concrete pads, etc. Contact the codes departments in your area for the parameters you are required to meet.

Also, some areas have adopted residential barrier codes, which may require fencing or self-closing gates on the property to prevent children and/or unsupervised, unwanted guests from entering the spa. Your PDC Spa is complete with a locking thermal cover that meets the ASTM standards for safety covers and as a result, is usually exempt from most barrier requirements. As a general practice, your local Building Department will inform you of any applicable barrier requirements at the time a permit is obtained for the installation of an electrical circuit.

Site Location

Choosing a spot for your spa is a personal choice, although there are many considerations that are common for all spa owners. Site preparation and selection is the owner's responsibility. Carefully read these guidelines to consider numerous variables in choosing the best location for your hot tub.

- 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? One that is clear of debris and comfortable to walk in your bare feet or slippers? Enjoying the spa in the winter time is by far a great enjoyment. Do not let a long distance from the house to the spa prevent you from using the spa during the colder months.
- 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.
- Consider your view from inside the spa. What will you be looking at from the best seat in the hot tub? Imagine soaking in the warm swirling water while gazing at a wall or fence or, enjoying a colorful sunset.
- 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, easiest 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, although if you choose to locate yours indoors in a sunroom, etc., there are additional concerns that need to be addressed. Remember that the more people you have in the spa, the more water is displaced onto your floor. Consider flooring and material nearby that may be damaged by spa water. There should 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 120/240v/40 amp breaker for single pump system 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.)

Site Preparation

Once you have a location selected, there are several issues you should consider in preparing the site for the hot tub installation.

- A flat, level surface that is strong enough to support your spa is required. Once your spa is filled, it may weigh a great deal. Make certain the spot you choose can support a minimum of 100 pounds per square foot load, per recommended guidelines. Structural damage to the spa resulting from the incorrect installation or placement on inadequate foundation is not covered in the spa’s limited warranty.
- 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. Note that pavers, stepping stones, etc. still have a tendency to settle and may become unlevel at some point. A reinforced concrete slab should be at least four inches thick with the reinforcing mesh or rod attached to a bond wire.

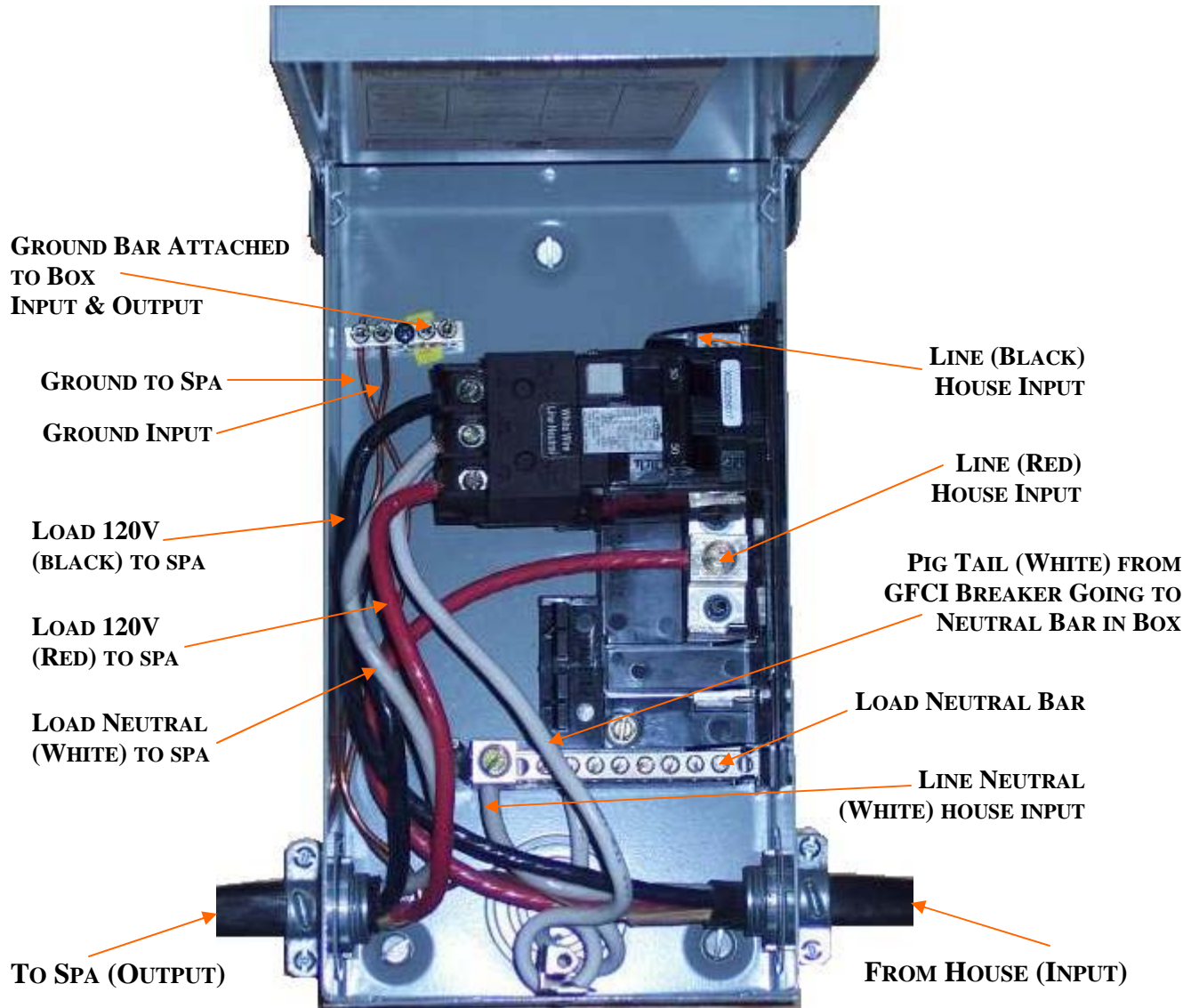
- Make sure your dimensions are correct as you prepare the site for your new spa. Click onto the web site www.pdcspas.com or call our toll free number for dimensions of the model you have chosen. Allow a perimeter of the chosen ground surface to extend beyond the spa itself to provide a clean area for users to get in and out of the spa.
- The spa location and the spa itself must be level before filling with water.
- Should your spa site be a wooden deck, this provides a clean area with weather and rot resistant qualities, if a pressure-treated type of lumber is used. Consider the load requirements and consult a builder to determine if your deck is of adequate strength.
- If installing your hot tub below grade, consider adequate drainage for run-off and the unlikely event of rapid spa drainage.
- Allow adequate space to access the equipment behind the four access panels on the hot tub sides for possible future service needs. Your spa may have all equipment located under the end cabinet; the AdvantagePack, making service quick and easy.
- Leave ample access to the GFCI circuit breaker for testing.
- A quick disconnect (manual disconnect) is to be installed between 5 feet and 15 feet of the spa, according to the National Electric Code, and within the line of sight from the hot tub. Consider where this can be located when preparing the spa site.
- There may have been a spigot installed on the cabinet of the hot tub for easy emptying of the spa water. Be sure you leave ample room to access this.

Electrical Requirements

IMPORTANT: All spas installed in the US must meet the requirements of the National Electric Code (NEC) and any applicable state and local codes. The electrical circuit must be installed by a licensed electrician and approved by your local building/electrical inspector.

- All spas must be permanently connected to the power supply. The power supply is to be dedicated; no other appliances or lights sharing the circuit. The spa requires 50 or 40 amps of power.

BREAKER BOX
50 OR 40 AMP, 120/240 VOLT,
TYPICAL INSTALLATION



TO BE NOTED: Installation of this GFCI Circuit Breaker, including ampere sizing and choice of conductor size and type, must be completed by a qualified electrician in accordance with the National Electrical Code, and all applicable federal, state, and local codes and regulations in effect at the time of installation.

TO BE NOTED: The white Neutral wire from the back of the GFCI Circuit Breaker **MUST** be connected to an incoming Line Neutral. The internal mechanism of the GFCI requires this Neutral connection for proper GFCI function.

IMPORTANT:
6 GAUGE COPPER WIRE MUST BE USED
TEST GFCI MONTHLY & PRIOR TO EACH USE.

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- The electrical circuit must be protected with a 50 or 40 amp, 120/240V, GFCI circuit breaker. All wiring is to be #6 copper wire with ground. Review the previous page indicating a typical GFCI installation and note that all connections are to be completed only by a licensed electrician.
- The NEC requires that a manual disconnect device for the spa be installed at least 5 feet from the spa edge and no more than 15 feet from the spa, within the line of sight, for spa safety.

Preparing for Delivery

Begin by confirming the dimensions of your spa model by accessing the web site's specific model page; www.pdcspas.com. If you choose to move the unit to the site while still packaged, you will want to add additional inches to the spa measurements. Also, if you plan to use a mover's dolly to get the spa to the location, this will also add a few inches to the overall size. Make certain you have adequate clearance for the move.

- Check that the path to the site is clear and is of adequate size to accommodate the unit. Walk the path and consider any obstacles that may make the move difficult.
- Note any gates, utility meters, AC units, shrubs, trees, etc. that may be in the way for the move.
- Check that there are no low eaves, gutters, overhead phone or electric lines, tree branches, etc. that are in the way to the site.
- Consider any turns, narrow sidewalks or hallways, that may be prohibitive to the move.
- Stairs, steps, and anything other than a flat surface will make the move more difficult. Many installs require the use of a crane to get the spa in the exact location chosen, if it involves going over a fence or dealing with a considerable slope. It is not as alarming as you may think. The move generally takes less than a half hour.

Spa Start-Up

Refer to the Owners Manual for exact instructions on your initial spa start-up. This is a simple process and generally involves filling the unit with a garden hose, after the power has been turned off to the unit, valves are checked to be open and the spigot closed. You may want to wipe out the spa prior to filling to remove any dirt that may have collected during shipping. Check the spa for any possible leaks, turn on the power and consult the Manual for spa control operation. Balance the water chemistry, and enjoy! It may take several hours for the spa to heat-up to the desired temperature, approximately 7-8, depending on the spa size.

NOTES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Electrician

Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

Phone, E-mail Address _____

Builder, Mason

Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

Phone, E-mail Address _____

Service Technician

Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

Phone, E-mail Address _____

General Notes
