

Platinum Hot Tubs

PRE-INSTALLATION GUIDE



Pre-installation Guide

Congratulations. Your new spa is designed to give you years of pleasure. Please take the time to read this booklet carefully, as it will provide you with the information you will need to ensure the safe, secure, and timely installation of your new hot tub. This booklet is meant to be used in conjunction with your specific owner's manual for the spa model that you have purchased. The following sections are guidelines on how to prepare for the delivery and set-up of your new spa. Points specifically covered are site selection, delivery access, surface preparation, and electrical requirements

Remember to carefully read the Owner's Manual that accompanies your spa before you attempt to connect or operate it.

In most cities, permits will be required for the installation of electrical circuits or the construction of exterior surfaces (concrete pads, decks and gazebos). In addition, some communities have adopted residential barrier codes, which may require fencing and/or self-closing gates on the property to prevent unsupervised access to a pool (or spa) by children less than 5 years of age.

Your spa is equipped with a locking cover that meets the ASTM and CSA Standard 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. Call 1-866-486-1365 and speak to a Platinum representative to obtain information on which permits may be required in your local area.

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SPA LOCATION AND PREPARATION

IMPORTANT: Site selection and preparation are your responsibility. Carefully read these instructions and consult the website www.platinumhottubs.com, or call 1-866-486-1365 if you have any questions.

Some things to consider before you position your spa.

- Winter is by far the greatest time to be in a hot tub. Do not let your fear of the cold prevent you from enjoying the spa. Bring a bathrobe and slippers out, open the cover and get in.
- The path that leads to the spa should be cleared of all debris and be nice to walk on barefoot.
- Check overhead from the location to see if falling leaves and wind blown rain or snow will be a problem.
- Choose your location with the thought that your spa will need to be serviced in the future. Enclosing a spa in a deck or three-sided wall may look great, but if your spa is difficult to service, it could be cost prohibitive.
- Imagine where the seats are in the spa and what your view will be like in advance. Having a great seat or lounge in a spa means nothing if you are facing a wall and have a beautiful view behind you.
- Privacy is a consideration. Second story neighbors may see more of you than you would like, so position the hot tub where you feel comfortable. Privacy screens, umbrellas, lattice and fabric curtains may be required to give you the peace that you are looking for while you enjoy your hydrotherapy experience.
- Consider an awning or umbrella to avoid putting your spa in direct sunlight to offer you protection from the elements. UV rays make getting sunburns dangerous. You should also wear sunscreen and limit your exposure to direct sunlight.



Now that you have a potential spot picked out for your new spa, whether it's indoors or outdoors, on a patio or on a deck, just make sure you check the following points:

- Do not place your spa within 10 ft. (3 m) of any overhead power lines or electrical fixtures that can fall into your spa
- Always put your spa on a structurally sound, level surface. A spa filled with water can weigh in excess of 500 lb. (225 kg).
- Make certain that the location you choose can support the weight of your spa when completely filled with water. A minimum of 100 lb./sq. ft. (45 kg/0.09 m²) load is the recommended guideline.
- Don't forget to level your spa before filling it. (See spa leveling instructions included in Owner's Manual.)
- Locate your equipment compartment, which houses all of the electrical components, in a place where water will drain away from it. Allowing water into the equipment compartment can damage the electronics, or may result in tripping your home circuit breaker
- Leave yourself easy access to the circuit breakers in the sub panel (240-volt models), or to the interrupter switch on the end of the power cord (120-volt models). Never let water get into the sub-panel (240 volt models), the interrupter switch (120-volt models) or into the electrical outlet that your spa is plugged into (120-volt models).
- Your 120-volt spa will require a dedicated circuit to operate properly.
- Your 240-volt spa's subpanel is weather-resistant when installed correctly with the door closed. Your electrician will provide this panel.
- Leave access to the equipment compartment for periodic spa care and maintenance.



Equipment Door

OUTDOOR AND PATIO INSTALLATION

No matter where you install your spa, it's important that you have a solid foundation to support it. Structural damage to the spa resulting from incorrect installation or placement on an inadequate foundation is not covered under the spa's limited warranty.

If you install the spa outdoors, a reinforced concrete pad at least 4 in. (10.2 cm) thick is required. The minimum load for any of our spa models is 100 lb./sq. ft. (45 kg/0.09 m²). The reinforcing rod or mesh in the pad should be attached to a bond wire to give added strength. Always make the pad larger than the spa. This will allow you to add accessory items like steps and railings and give you room to get into and out of the spa safely. All spas may be installed onto a deck, provided that the load capacity of the deck is greater than the dead weight of the spa (see Wood or Synthetic Deck Installation).

If you place the spa on the bare ground, even temporarily, place stepping stones under the leveling areas of the spa. The stones should be at least 2 in. (5 cm) thick and 12 sq. in. (30.5 cm²). Even with stones in place, the spa will inevitably settle and not be level. We do not recommend filling your spa unless you have a rigid level surface that can withstand the minimum weight of 100 lb./sq. ft. (45 kg/0.09 m²), even on a temporary basis.

WOOD OR SYNTHETIC DECK INSTALLATION

To be certain your deck can support your spa, you must know the deck's maximum load capacity. Consult a qualified building contractor or structural engineer before you place the spa on an elevated deck or inside your home. When you consider the weight load of the deck, add the weight of people and other objects that you plan to put on the deck like plants and furniture. This weight per square foot must not exceed the structure's rated capacity, or serious structural damage could result.



IN-HOME INSTALLATION

There are some special requirements if you place your spa indoors. The use of a dehumidifier is recommended for all indoor installations of spas. We highly recommend that you utilize only a tiled room with a floor drain if you plan to put your spa indoors. Since water will accumulate around the spa, use flooring materials to provide a good grip when wet. The humidity will naturally increase with the spa installed. Water may get into woodwork and produce dry-rot, mildew, or other problems. Check for airborne moisture's effects on exposed wood, paper, etc. in the room. To minimize these effects, it is best to provide plenty of ventilation to the spa area.

DELIVERY ACCESS - BACKYARD DELIVERY

First, locate the dimensions of your spa from the specification sheet for your model.

Next, contact your dealer to find the height and width added by the delivery cart, which the dealer will use to deliver your new spa. Use the height of the cart plus the width of your spa to determine the vertical clearance required to clear the spa and cart. Use the width of the cart, or the height of the spa, whichever is greater, to determine the maximum width of clearance necessary.

NOTE: It may be necessary to allow for additional overhead clearance if the spa will be rolled up or down an incline or moved up or down a short flight of stairs.



HOW TO MEASURE FOR BACKYARD DELIVERY

Plan the Delivery Route in Advance

Consider the following points when planning your delivery route:

- Check the width of the gates, doors and sidewalks to make sure your hot tub will pass through unobstructed. You may have to remove a gate or part of a fence to allow for adequate width clearance.
- If the delivery route will require a 90-degree turn, check the measurement at the turn to ensure the hot tub will fit.
- Check to see if there are protruding gas meters, water meters or A/C units on your home that will cause obstruction along the delivery path to your yard. Are there more than **two consecutive stairs** without a landing in your delivery route? If so, you must consult your spa dealer prior to delivery to make adequate preparations.

A: Check number of stairs. No more than **two in a row** without landing.

B: Check corner clearance.

C: Check overhanging branches, power and clothes lines

D: Check structures such as dog houses and, wood piles.

E: Check all gates and entries for width clearance, and remove in advance if required.

F: Check over hang clearance.

G: Check protruding electric and gas meters, air conditioners, fixtures and rain gutters.

Special Circumstances

The use of a crane for delivery and installation is necessary occasionally. It is used primarily to prevent damage to your hot tub and property, and injury to delivery personnel. Your Platinum representative at, 1-866-486-1365, may be able to assist you with arrangements. If your hot tub delivery requires the use of a crane, the cost of a **crane is not included** in standard delivery service.

TRACTOR-TRAILER DELIVERY – DROP SHIP

There are many spas that are shipped via tractor-trailer to the front curbside of the home. Some points to consider:

- Your location must be tractor-trailer accessible.
- The freight company will contact you in advance to schedule a delivery date and time.
- The spa will be lowered on a lift gate at the curb, and you will need to provide all labor in order to get it from the curb to the sidewalk or driveway of your home.
- We recommend that you have at least four people on hand to help at this stage of the process.



DO-IT-YOURSELF – BACKYARD DELIVERY

Spas are big, bulky and pretty hard to move around. If you are going to place the spa in the backyard yourself, you will need some friends to help. We recommend that you have at least four people. Most spas are moved on one or two mover's dollies on their side. Be sure that the path you choose is clear of all dirt and debris. If you have to go over dirt or grass, put down 4 ft. x 8 ft. (1.2 m x 2.4 m) plywood sheets and roll the spa over them moving them as required from the back to the front.

Walk the entire delivery path and note any points that may be difficult. If you do not feel confident about your ability to safely delivery your spa, please do not attempt it yourself. Hire a professional spa moving company to finish the job.



ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

Electrical Set-up before Delivery of Your Spa

1. All 240-volt spas must be permanently connected (hard-wired) to the power supply. Spas of 120 volts may use a GFCI cord, plugged into a dedicated grounded outlet. See the Owner's Manual for specific power supply requirements by model. Supplying power to the spa that is not in accordance with these instructions will void both the independent testing agency's listing and the manufacturer's warranty.
2. The power supplied to the spa must be from a dedicated circuit with no other appliances or lights sharing power.
3. To determine the current, voltage and wire size required for the spa configuration to be connected, refer to Power Requirements in the Owner's Manual.
 - Wire size must be appropriate as per NEC and local codes.
 - Wire size is determined by length of run from breaker box to spa and maximum current draw.
 - We recommend copper wire with THHN insulation.
 - All wiring must be copper to ensure adequate connections. **Do not use aluminum wire.**
 - When using wire larger than #6 (10mm²), add a junction box near the spa and reduce to short lengths of #6 (10mm²) wire between the junction box and the spa.
 - The electrical supply for the spa must include a suitable rated switch or circuit breaker to open all ungrounded supply conductors to comply with Section 422-20 of the National Electric Code, ANSI/NFPA 70. The disconnecting means must be readily accessible to the spa's occupants but installed at least 5 ft. (1.5 m) from the spa water. Check with local municipalities for additional code requirements.
 - The electrical circuit for the spa must include a suitable ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) as required by NEC Article 680-42. We recommend Square-D or Siemens GFCI breakers.

120-volt Operation Requirement

The 120-volt spa requires a dedicated 20A, 120-volt circuit. This circuit must be properly wired; that is to say, it comes from factory with a 20A single pole GFCI plug and #12-3 power cord.

The hot tub must be located no more than 10 ft. (3 m) from a dedicated grounded, grounding type electrical outlet so that the power cord can be plugged directly into it. Do not use an extension cord. If the hot tub is more than 10 ft (3 m) from an outlet, it must be hard-wired to a 20A single pole GFCI breaker (purchased separately). Long electrical runs may require a larger gauge feed wire than stated. We recommend that a maximum voltage drop of 3% be used when calculating the larger wire size.

The 120-volt GFCI plug and the receptacle must be protected from weather and landscape sprinklers. They should never get wet.

240-volt Operation Requirement

The 240-volt models require a 50 or 60A, dual pole circuit breaker in the main electrical service panel. The 50 or 60A GFCI breaker can be installed in the sub-panel in the vicinity of the spa but it should not be closer than 5 ft. (1.5 m) from the spa water's edge.

Electrical Installation of Spa After Delivery

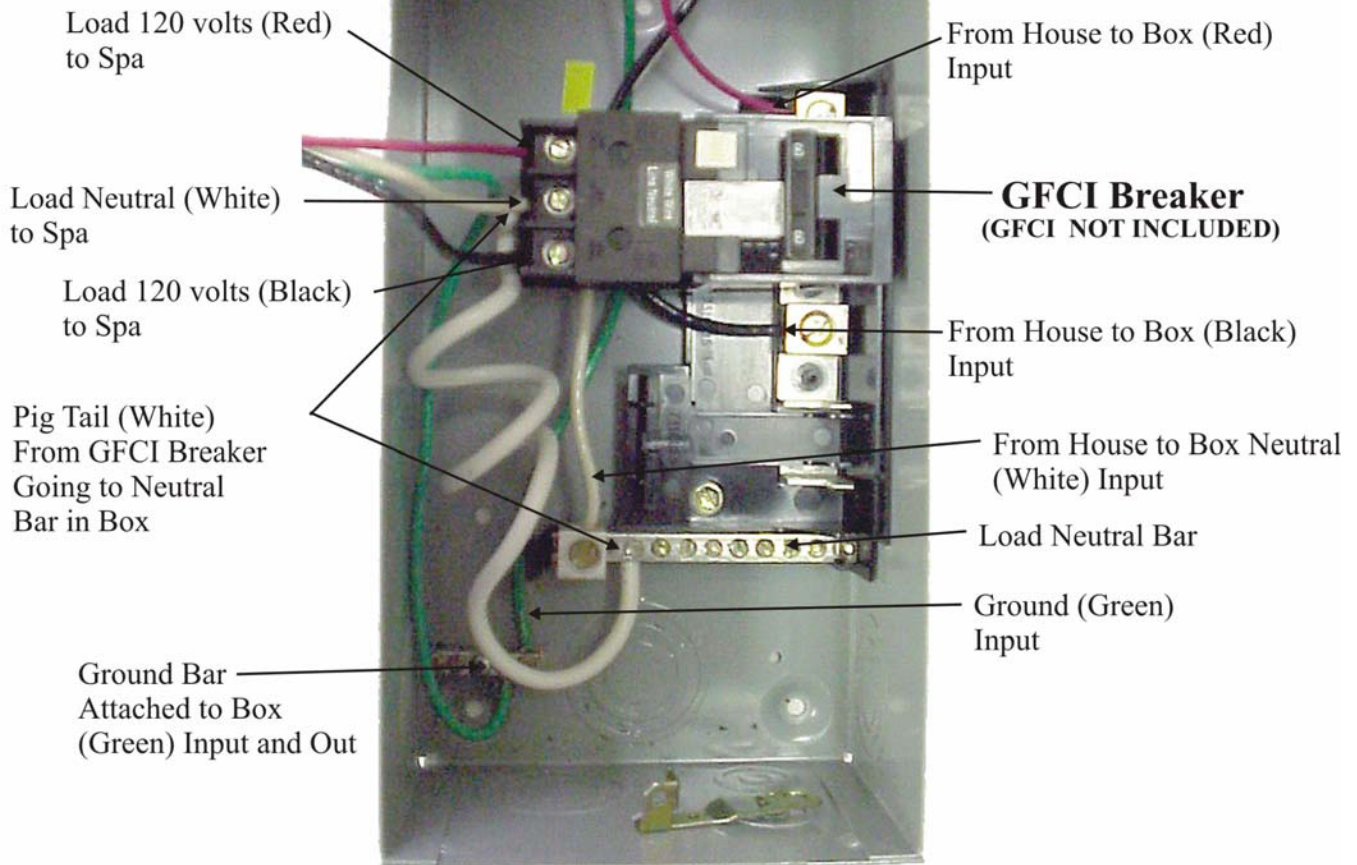
Important Safety Notice for All Models!

Proper grounding is extremely important. This spa is equipped with a current collector system. A pressure securing wire connector is provided on the outside of the load box to permit connection of a bonding wire between the spa and any metal within 5 ft. (1.5 m) of the spa. Bonding wire must be at least #8AWG (8.4mm²) solid copper wire. In Canada, use bonding wire #6AWG.

1. To gain access to the spa's power terminal strip, remove the wooden/plastic cabinet panel on the side of the spa under the control panel. After removing the cabinet panel, remove the metal control box cover screws and metal control box cover.
2. An inlet is provided to allow the power supply to enter the equipment area from the left of the hot tub near the base. Select the inlet, and then feed the power cable through to the control box. If necessary, you can drill a cable hole through either the bottom or right side of the spa cabinet to get the cable connection to the control box.
3. Install the power cable through the large opening provided on the left side of the metal control box.
4. Connect wires, color to color, on the terminal strips and tighten securely.
5. Secure the metal control box door by installing its screws, and then re-install the cabinet panel under the control panel. Electrical installation is now complete.

SUBPANEL BREAKER BOX

IMPORTANT
6 Gauge Copper Wire Must
Be Used



NOTE: The White Neutral Wire from the GFCI MUST be connected to an incoming Line Neutral. The internal mechanism of the GFCI requires this Neutral connection. The GFCI **WILL NOT WORK WITHOUT IT.**

The subpanel and GFCI do not come with the purchase of your tub. Please visit the Platinum website www.platinumhottubs.com or call 1-866-486-1365 to speak with a Platinum representative, for information.

CONTACTS

Electrician

Name:

Telephone:

Name:

Telephone:

Masonry

Name:

Telephone:

Name:

Telephone:

General

Name:

Telephone:

Name:

Telephone:

NOTES

Platinum Hot Tubs

1-866-486-1365

**6101 N. 45th Street
St. Petersburg, Florida 33714**