

A man and a woman are relaxing in a hot tub. The man is on the left, smiling and looking towards the woman. The woman is on the right, also smiling and looking towards the man. They are both wearing dark-colored swimwear. The hot tub is white and has a control panel visible on the left side. In the background, there is a house with large windows and a patio area with outdoor furniture.

9

tips to
help make
your spa
installation
a success

Commissioned by
Caldera Spas

Simple planning makes a better spa

As spa owners ourselves we know what needs to happen to ensure a hot tub is installed properly for regular use. With that in mind, we've put together important tips on the following slides to help guide your planning for a smooth spa installation.





TIP

1

Think about your spa location

Where you locate your spa has a big impact on how often you'll use it. We encourage you to consider these tips when deciding on just the right spot.

10' or less. Place your spa a maximum of ten feet away from the access door. Ideally, even less distance is better for inspiring regular use of your spa.

Strong and level. The surface your spa rests on must be able to support a great deal of weight. You can find out just how many pounds a spa full of water weighs by [comparing models](#). A flat, even surface is also important for a proper installation.

Water where it should be. Water, whether from rain or from splashing, needs a way for it to flow away from your spa. This will ensure a nice, clean, dry place around it.

Keep clear. Regular maintenance is important to the health of your spa. Placing your spa so there's easy access to the control panel will simplify maintaining your spa.

TIP

2

A clean plan

Place your spa out of the path of falling leaves and other debris.

Also notice where gutters channel rainwater as well as where wind often blows. Another bit of simple planning that will help keep your spa inviting is to keep the path to your spa clean, clear and well-lit. That will make it easier to get to-and-from your spa, reduce debris from tracking in, and help create a welcoming experience.





TIP

3

Choosing what your hot tub rests on

There are four recommended surfaces you can select from and each has their advantages.

A concrete slab made of reinforced concrete that is at least 4-inches thick and able to support at least 120-pounds per square foot provides the most strength and support. As the concrete must be completely dry and fully cured, the slab must be poured well in advance of your hot tub installation.

A prefabricated spa pad combines strength with convenience. The system comes in interlocking pieces that make it easy to assemble with no significant amount of lead time needed before installing your spa.

A gravel base in either crushed rock or gravel can provide a foundation that's more affordable than other options. Before the materials are brought in, the ground should be well-compacted and a drain installed to handle rainwater and any tub spillage.

A deck can be a welcoming place to put your spa, and yes it can be done. We recommend you have a conversation with a structural engineer or a contractor who has experience building such projects. They'll need to figure out how much everything will weigh—your hot tub, water and several people—and then design a deck to support it.



TIP

4

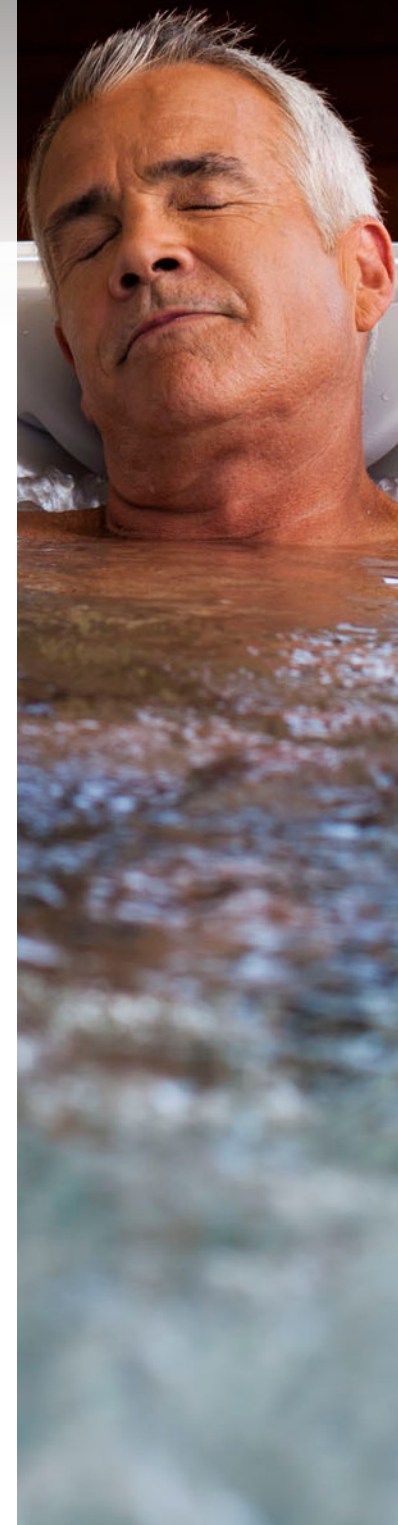
Powering your hot tub

All 230-volt Caldera spas include a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) sub-panel to ensure that every installation complies with the National Electric Code.

If you purchase another brand of hot tub, you may likely require an electrician to hard-wire a GFCI-protected 220-240 volt 50-amp circuit.

Spas with multiple pumps may need a 50-60-amp service. And while larger spas can require even more power, some smaller hot tubs can run off a standard 110V source, reducing the installation requirements.

Beyond power there are other safety codes to follow, such as a manual disconnect device installed at least five feet away and that is easy to see and access. It's best to engage a professional licensed electrician to do the work.



TIP

5

A visual experience

As you research the right spa and your anticipation grows, just imaging how exciting it'll be once you get your new spa home and placed in just the right spot.

Your spa can be a visual experience as well as a physical one. An inspiring view of a well-landscaped yard or other features can help your spa become a place where you can experience daily transformation.



TIP

6

Ensure your privacy

Trees, shrubs, and fences offer screening so you can enjoy your backyard retreat in privacy.

And the more safe and secure you'll feel in your hot tub, the more soothing your experience will be whenever you ease yourself into the calming and rejuvenating waters of your own private spa.



TIP

7

Follow the code

Most cities and counties require permits for exterior construction including electrical circuits, so you may need to get a building permit.

Some communities also have codes requiring fences and self-closing gates around your spa. Check with your town or city to see what code applies to you.



A man and a woman are relaxing in a blue hot tub outdoors. The man is on the left, smiling, and the woman is on the right, also smiling. The hot tub is surrounded by greenery and a wooden deck. In the background, there is a green patio table and chairs.

TIP

8

Take measurements

Use your tape measure to plan a route for the spa to be loaded off a truck and moved to your perfect location.

First, determine the size of your hot tub, including any protective material.

Second, measure the width of any gates, doors and steps. You should also take note of the amount of steps, if any, as well any gas or water meters or air conditioning units along the path.

Third, measure the clearance under the eaves as well as any overhanging tree branches.

TIP

9

Get better informed

As you compare spa brands and models, take some time to also learn about the benefits of regular hot tub use.

See what the Caldera community of spa owners and experts say in the blog, [20-Minute Renewal](#). This valuable resource is filled with more than 100 articles about how to incorporate healthy habits – including daily hot tubbing – in just 20 minutes. It's a great guide for busy people especially.



We wish you a smooth spa installation

We know how excited you are to have your own spa and that you want to do everything you can to make the installation go effortlessly. That's why knowledge is so important.

Please take the time you need to prepare, and ask us any questions you have about spas and spa installation. We're inspired by your curiosity and enthusiasm and you give us an opportunity to add to the community. Thank you.

Feel free to contact your [local Caldera dealer](#) with additional questions related to your spa installation.



calderaspas.com

Or download [Why Renew, Restore and Reconnect in a Caldera Spa?](#) to learn more.

