

HOT TUB Buyers Guide



L A **Z** B O Y[®]
HOT TUBS

Live Life Comfortably.®

INTRODUCTION

The name La-Z-Boy has stood for comfort and quality for nearly a century and your interest in La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs indicates that you are devoted to excellence. Whether you are interested in owning and enjoying a hot tub from the Premier, Signature or Classic collections, our hot tubs provide a variety of features that make it the right choice for your personal relaxation and comfort.

The management and staff at La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs wants you to be as comfortable with your preparation as you are with your purchase. We sincerely appreciate your patronage and take pride in the tradition of quality hot tubs that our company represents.

To properly acquaint yourself with the hot tub buying process, La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs has created a simple checklist we call the Six C's of Comfort. As you research your decision to become a home hot tubber, use these six simple guidelines to keep you focused and properly compare features. You came here for comfort, not the opposite – so don't let flashy events, high-pressure sales tactics or bells and whistles distract and upset you.

We took a great idea and added hot water. As a consumer, there are six basic things you should look for when buying a hot tub:

- 1 Comfortable Seating**
- 2 Customizable Massage**
- 3 Convenient Maintenance**
- 4 Cost Efficiency**
- 5 Craftsmanship**
- 6 Consumer Protection**

If you need any more information than this guide provides, feel free to call your local retailer or visit our Web site at www.lazboyhottubs.com.



1 COMFORTABLE SEATING

Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

The first place you expect comfort in a hot tub is the seating, so the first thing you should do is sit in the hot tub you want while it's on your dealer's showroom floor. Since people come in different heights and body types, we engineer various kinds of seats (bench, comfort corner, lounge, Reclina, etc.) at various widths and heights – so everyone can sit comfortably with their heads above the water line. Move around from seat to seat and it won't be long until you find your favorite. Then, if possible, ask for a **“wet test”** to get a true feeling for your preferred spot when hot water is added. Many retail outlets offer this free service to try before you buy.

When you look at La-Z-Boy hot tub seating, our **exclusive Reclina-Seats** jump out because they look like we took your favorite La-Z-Boy recliner from your living room and duplicated it for underwater seating. These unique seats (you're not going to find them anywhere else) shift the weight and position of the bather to create additional comfort by allowing for just the right seating axis and buoyancy. Beware of generic loungers that force your body into a position where it may be more likely to float away from the massaging jets. Check to see if the hot tub you want features **ergonomically-designed** seats that fit your body's natural curves. The backs of our hot tub seats help support the weight of the bather much like a lumbar support provides in your favorite chair. **Comfort Rest Pillows** are built into key La-Z-Boy Hot Tub seats to help support the head and provide maximum comfort when leaning back into your seat.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

Just like La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs has invested in the most comfortable, ergonomic seat designs to help provide you with the relaxing hydrotherapy experience you desire, so to must you **provide the right platform** for the hot tub to sit. Comfortable underwater seating starts with placing your hot tub on a solid, level foundation.

First, decide if you want your hot tub **inside or outside**.

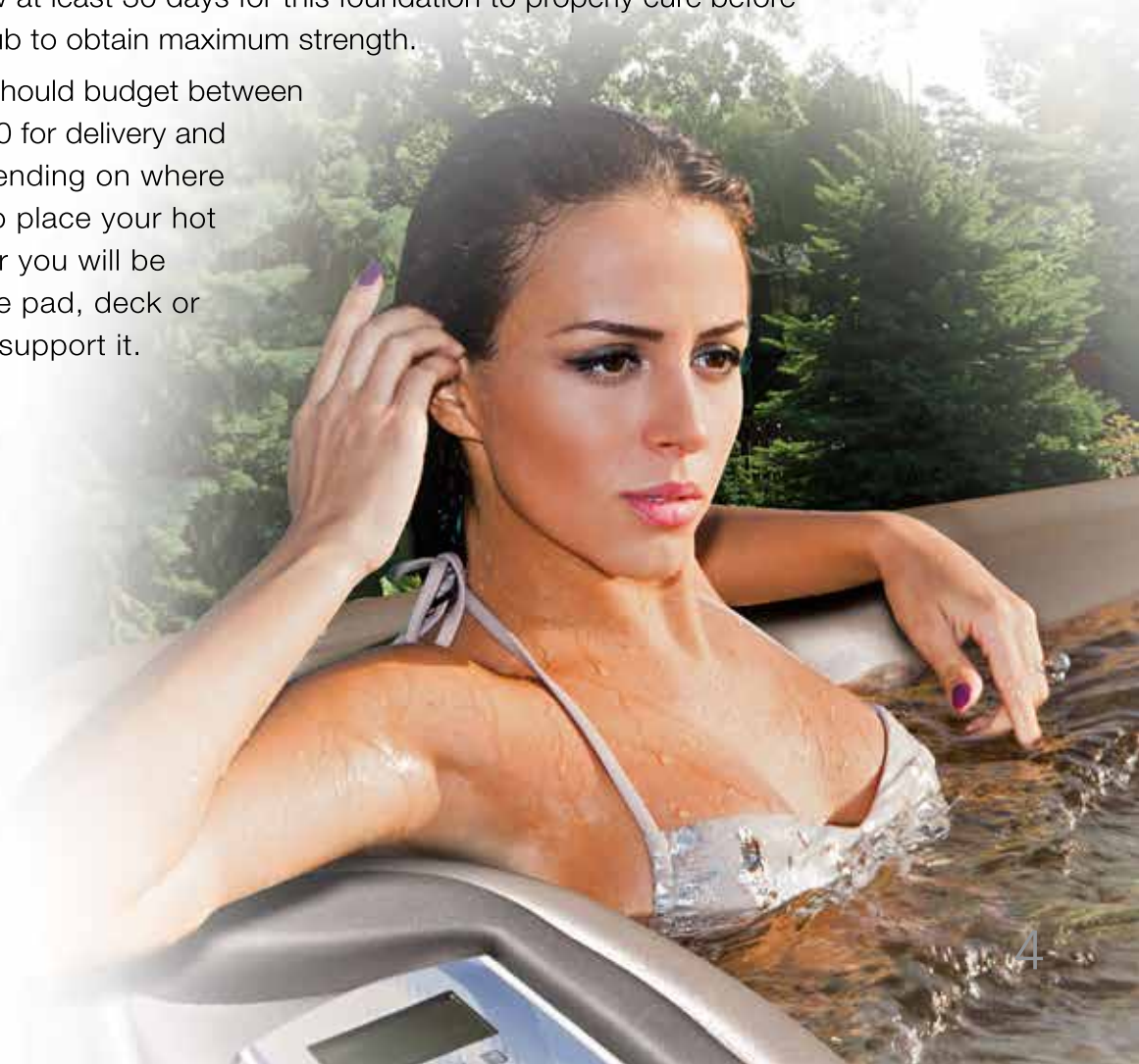
If you want your hot tub inside, ensure there is proper ventilation in the room because hot tubs produce considerable amounts of moisture. Your hot tub area should contain moisture resistant wall/floor coverings and building materials to avoid damage from moisture over time. Also, your hot tub will require draining and filling as part of the normal maintenance of the unit. Make sure the location is within reach of a hose and there is an avenue for draining.

Wherever you place your hot tub, ensure there is service access to front, back and side panels. Typically, three feet (one meter) of space is recommended on all sides, so don't back yourself into a corner!

Second, plan the delivery route. Find out if your hot tub is arriving via standard curbside delivery or upgraded white glove installation. Curbside delivery means that a truck pulls up to your home and drops your hot tub off on your driveway. White glove installation provides an extra service by placing the hot tub where you want it. This is something you will need to discuss with your delivery company and is a separate contract not involving La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs. If you (and some friends) plan to move and position your hot tub into place, we have found that the hot tub can be moved with the aid of a few large PVC pipes (5-inches in diameter) to roll the unit along. Or, try a hot tub dolly.

Your hot tub may be more than 8 feet long and 3 feet wide, so consider obstacles such as: clearances, corners, hills, steps, obstructions (fence panels or screen patio sections may need to be temporarily removed). You want a minimum of 42 inches of clearance throughout your delivery route. Third, **ensure your location is flat and strong enough** to hold a hot tub that is approximately 1,000 pounds – before adding the weight of water and people. For internal installations, check the load carrying capabilities of the floor. Most homes meet the requirement of 80 pounds per square foot. For external installations, a 4-inch (10 cm) thick cement pad suffices. If you plan to prepare a special foundation for your hot tub, consider the location of your electrical conduit so a certified electrician can wire the hot tub after it is in place. If you choose a concrete foundation, allow at least 30 days for this foundation to properly cure before filling your hot tub to obtain maximum strength.

In general, you should budget between \$300 and \$1,500 for delivery and installation, depending on where you are going to place your hot tub and whether you will be using a concrete pad, deck or patio stones to support it.



2 CUSTOMIZABLE MESSAGE

Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

The main reason you want a hot tub in the first place is to enjoy a massage at your convenience. There are varying types of massaging jets available in the industry – small to large, spinning to straight, soft output to powerful streams and everything in between. This is why we strongly recommend scheduling a wet test with your dealer so you can get in the hot tub and find out what kind of hydrotherapy is best for you.

La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs sets itself apart with its Generation II Comfort Zone Massage Technology where you have optimum control to choose your own custom massage pressure. This technology goes beyond just a basic jet being turned on or off, which is the standard way most hot tubs are manufactured.

Our Premier collection hot tubs feature Comfort Zone Massage Technology that provides an advanced level of hydrotherapy massage in either a Comfort Corner or Reclina-Seat in each of the models. Bathers can conveniently turn the massage feature on or off by pressing the remote keypad that is located adjacent to the seat. This will activate a soothing scrolling massage up and down the major muscle groups on the back. You can also easily adjust the massage intensity from as little as you want to as much as you like to customize the massage pressure and ensure the most comfortable massage experience possible.

When comparing jets and the massage experience they deliver, it may be tempting to go for the hot tub model with the most jets. More is not always better. Instead, look for jets that are strategically placed in the most optimal spots. A few properly arranged jets can be far more effective than dozens of random ones. For example, foot jets are often overlooked, even though they can provide one of best possible massages.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

This is the easy and fun part of hot tub ownership. Finally receiving the massage you want! La-Z-Boy makes it so convenient and comfortable because you simply turn the massage on or off with the touch of a button – once you are at your seat. You can easily adjust the massage intensity from as little as you want to as much as you like.

Play around with the buttons and enjoy!



Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

You bought your hot tub for enjoyment, relaxation and hydrotherapy not to become a part-time chemist, service technician or water care expert. La-Z-Boy understand that and wants you to feel comfortable in your hot tub water. **There are a few very simple things you can do to keep your water crystal clear** and extend the life of your operating components. The overwhelming majority of water quality issues arise due to a lack of proper sanitization. Hot tub experts recommend you maintain a base of at least 3-5 parts per million of a sanitizer in your water to rapidly destroy any microbiological contaminants such as waterborne bacteria, algae and organic matter given off by bathers. Consider this, four bathers using your hot tub for 20 minutes can reduce 5 ppm chlorine to zero. If you don't immediately address this issue, your water won't be very enjoyable the next time you want to use your hot tub.

There are many ways to sanitize your hot tub water including chlorine, bromine and salt systems. Popular "silver sticks," floating or inline cartridges, built-in ozone and shock oxidizers all help improve your hot tub's sanitizers. **La-Z-Boy has made sanitizing very convenient with its AquaClear Salt Water System.** La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs using the AquaClear System need very little maintenance, and the system can be easily installed as an option on all Premier and Signature collection models. The system uses sodium bromide (a form of salt) to generate and introduce bromine into the hot tub water automatically. The salt also works to help soften your water, making for a more pleasant bathing experience.

No matter what method you choose to sanitize the water, it is also important to pay attention to filtration. All hot tubs come with at least one filter and the ability to pre-program automatic filtration cycles so you can filter hundreds of gallons of water multiple times a day. Some hot tubs utilize a small 24-hour circulation pump, while others use standard size jet pumps to filter at low speed a few hours every day.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

After you have placed your hot tub in the perfect location, leaving adequate room for access to the panels for future servicing, fill your hot tub with water at least one-inch above highest wall jet (to prevent air lock in your pipes) and start relishing it!

Use your hot tub solo with your morning coffee or at night under the stars with a loved one. Turn your hot tub into a weekend family destination or the center of a party. Just remember, each time a person hops in your hot tub, the water quality drops, but there are some simple things you can do to keep the water clarity you deserve.

Use commercial test strips to help you
keep your water at these recommended levels:

Test	Desired Value
Total Alkalinity	80 to 120 ppm (mg/L)
pH	7.2 to 7.6
Hardness	200 to 300 ppm (mg/L)
Sanitizer (Chlorine or Bromine)	3 to 5 ppm (mg/L)

Here are a few tips to help you keep clear, enjoyable water:

Designate a bathing suit for your hot tub and ensure it is well rinsed before entering the hot tub. A main culprit for foaming water is residual laundry detergent on your suits. This is especially prevalent for anybody wearing cotton T-shirts into the hot tub. Even if you accidentally turn your hot tub water into washing machine water, adequate sanitation and continued filtration will quickly remove the soap residue. It also helps to **remove and rinse your filter cartridge** with a hose or utility sink every week or two, depending on your hot tub usage. This will remove debris caught by the skimmer, improve the water clarity and extend the life of your filter. Remember, filters are designed to get dirty and most of them are made from paper media – there’s no need to achieve a perfect “white” look by soaking them in bleach, as this will only degrade your filter media and decrease its functionality and life span. The occasional hosing off is all that should be necessary, but if you feel compelled to clean the filter deeper, use an industry-approved cleaner. Consider using **MPS non-chlorine shock oxidizers** after each use. MPS attacks all the organic material bathers just brought into the hot tub, prevents them from otherwise quickly proliferating which helps your sanitizer work better. Consider using a weekly **water conditioner** that will help buffer your water levels, keeping them where they need to be, and at the same time softening your water and helping it remain crystal clear.

Drain your hot tub every few months – when your Total Dissolved Solids level reaches 1,500 to 2,000 ppm. You can test for TDS with a meter or having your water tested professionally, or you can “eye ball” it. When you turn your jets off and the water begins to settle, if you can visibly see dirt and soot settling to the floor (like you kicked sand underwater at the beach) it might be time to drain and refill your hot tub because all hot tub additives that dissolve in water add to the TDS. When it’s time to drain, consider using a plumbing line cleaner to purge organic and biofilm buildup that occurs in your hot tub pipes. This will give you a clean start like your hot tub is new again for the next fill. By cleaning out your hot tub’s plumbing lines, it also helps your components work better and increases the effectiveness of your sanitizer.

Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs meet or exceed the efficiency standards as outlined by the California Energy Commission that regulates the hot tub industry. Not all hot tubs carry the CEC stamp of approval so consider this standard for portable electric hot tub energy efficiency before you purchase. The industry average cost to run a hot tub is approximately \$1 per day. Consumers can save money if they choose a hot tub that meets CEC standards that take many factors into consideration to determine a maximum allowable standby power usage – that is to say, how much energy the hot tub is using when nobody is in it, which is the majority of the time over the course of a 24-hour period. The effect of hot tub standby power on price directly correlates to size, type and quality of construction, warranty, component options, number of jets, insulation type, type of cover, electrical connection type, brand and energy efficiency. Heating systems account for most overall hot tub standby energy consumption. Hot tub insulating methods – including the type of cover the hot tub comes with – are the two largest opportunities for you to save money on energy consumption because most heat is lost through evaporation.

Most manufacturers already insulate the shell and base of the hot tub using a combination of foam or barrier insulation that may or may not fully enclose all sides and the bottom of the hot tub. La-Z-Boy utilizes a Thermazone barrier insulation that fully encapsulates the hot tub cavity and recycles the heat that comes from the pumps and motors to help heat your hot tub water with heat already being generated. In addition to energy concerns, proper insulation will also help guard against pests and rodents, who love a warm place to live. Make sure your hot tub has a sealed cabinet and a plastic floor to ensure these unwelcome visitors cannot take up residence or cause damage to the components. Most portable electric hot tubs have at least one pump to provide filtering, circulation and to run the jets in low-speed standby mode and when the user turns them on full speed. Look for hot tub models that use low-amperage filtration pumps.

Finally, don't forget the importance of a good hardcover. The industry standard is a 50 to 76-mm (2 to 3-in.) tapered cover, but larger ones – like used on La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs – are available.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

La-Z-Boy implements a unique heating system costing you just pennies per day as proven by the CEC which regards La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs as energy efficient appliances. You can increase your energy efficient footprint even more just by considering a couple options at your home. First, position your hot tub out of or adequately protecting it from the wind. Just as people can get cold on cool/windy days so can your hot tub. Windy environments can significantly increase operating costs so place it near a natural or man-made barrier like your house, fence, deck or gazebo. Second, research the benefits of using an insulating pad. In cold climates, the ground can rob heat from the hot tub and increase your operating costs. You can counteract this by placing your hot tub directly on a pad that retains heat better.



5 CRAFTSMANSHIP

Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

The founders of La-Z-Boy have been honing their manufacturing skills since 1927 and that heritage carries over to your La-Z-Boy® Hot Tub. When you purchase from us, you can expect your hot tub to be built with pride and attention to detail from the trim to the controls. All of our hot tubs are designed with built-in features that have been created and manufactured with quality and longevity in mind. From electrical controls on top of your hot tub to the integrated support structures and all the components in-between, you can enjoy peace of mind knowing **La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs meet or exceed all quality assurance standards** governing hot tubs throughout the UK, Canada and the United States.

These standards include UL 1563, CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 218.1-M89 and ETL listing.

In addition, our hot tubs have passed the following bench tests: temperature and control calibration, equipment high/low speed amperage, electrical system dielectric, ground continuity safety, wet testing and energy efficiency. You already know about our comfortable seating, but when you look past that, does the hot tub you want have multi-level seating like La-Z-Boy so all body types can sit in it? Does the hot tub have a large enough foot well to accommodate multiple bathers? Are there safety steps to enter the hot tub, or are you forced to step on a seat when climbing in?

We strive to build our hot tubs with generous deep seating to ensure that bathers are fully immersed over their shoulders in hot water – because you deserve a comfortably crafted massage. And with the most generous foot wells possible, you have enough room to share your relaxing experience with other bathers by comfortably stretching out and relaxing. You should take a close look at some of these design features of the hot tub that are standard with La-Z-Boy. Are there built-in drink holders? Do you want a waterfall? How important is aromatherapy to you? No detail is too insignificant.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

La-Z-Boy has gone to great lengths to provide you an aesthetic, ergonomic and well-crafted hot tub. It will be up to you to design the kind of site and surroundings that complement your purchase in an appealing and easy to use manner.

Site selection is a critical step in enjoying your hot tub.

If you live in a climate with cold, snowy winters, consider locating your hot tub close to the house for easy access. You also may want to consider some type of windbreak or barrier to surround the unit. Southern exposure is usually preferable. Make note of any eaves –you don't want to place your hot tub under a gutter/eave/roof that could allow excess rain or melting snow to slide onto your hot tub.

If you live in a warmer climate, you may want to provide shade or privacy around your hot tub for relief from the sun. Deck awnings, gazebos, porch coverings or a Covana cover/gazebo combination are some of the most common solutions.

Regardless of climate, provide unobstructed access to all sides of your hot tub for normal servicing and a walkway/access to your hot tub that will prevent dirt and foliage from being introduced to your hot tub. Think about the location of trees and shrubs. While landscaping can provide additional privacy, take care when making your landscaping selections to avoid deciduous varieties that may shed their leaves seasonally and no longer provide privacy. Also note a spot to store your cover when you are using the hot tub. Once your hot tub is in the perfect spot with the perfect view and it has proper access to water, drainage and electricity, it's time to wire it. Contact an electrician to assess your electrical needs, install dedicated wiring, and ensure safe operation. Always comply with local building codes and obtain any necessary permits. When not in use, make sure the cover is fastened for energy efficiency and safety. Protect the pump and all equipment from the weather and unwanted critters by ensuring the cabinet panels are always secure.

Finally, consider adding a bar/serving ledge/seating nearby. This is great for entertaining when not everyone wants to get into the hot tub.



Before You Buy – What You Can Expect Standard in Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

When it comes to protecting your investment, you should look for hot tub manufacturers that have been in business for a while and have a proven record of reliability. Ask around to see what brand consumers trust. La-Z-Boy has been building some of the finest quality products for the home since 1927. We are confident that you will enjoy the most comfortable hot tub ownership experience possible. **La-Z-Boy Hot Tubs offers a guarantee** on the structure, acrylic and components of its hot tubs, while other brands offer basic limited warranties. When you purchase a La-Z-Boy Hot tubs Signature or Premier hot tub, you automatically receive a 10-year guarantee on the structure, a 5-year guarantee on the acrylic shell and a 100 percent guarantee on the components. It is straight forward and in writing – without fine print, so be wary of products not covered by a reasonable warranty. Reputation, reviews and referrals go a long way in researching companies you want to do business with. This holds true for hot tub manufacturers, hot tub retailers and service companies. So look for companies that don't charge extra for trip fees when doing a warranty call or companies that rely on small print that pro-rates the coverage or limits you in some way.

At Home – How You Should Prepare and Enjoy Your La-Z-Boy Hot Tub:

There are a few ways you can protect yourself once you have a hot tub at home. It is important to understand some basic legal, safety and fiscal concerns pertaining to hot tub ownership. At the time of delivery, the mover or delivery company may expect you to sign a receipt (Bill of Lading) acknowledging that you received your delivery in good condition. Once you sign this document, all claims against the mover are released so unpack and inspect your hot tub upon delivery. Make sure it has arrived in an acceptable manner before you sign anything.

Like any major appliance, a hot tub has special electrical needs. Adequate wiring and safety protocol is essential so be sure to contract a certified electrician to connect your standalone hot tub to its dedicated wiring. Ask if there are any required permits for the installation of electrical circuits (or the construction of decks and gazebos).

In addition, check with your local building department to see if there are any residential barrier codes, that may require fencing and/or self-closing gates on the property to prevent unsupervised access to a pool (or hot tub) by young children (typically under 5 years of age). Your new La-Z-Boy Hot Tub is equipped with a locking cover that meets the ASTM F1346-91 standard for safety covers and, as a result, is usually exempt from most barrier requirements. You also need to understand the costs of wiring your hot tub to your house. Depending on how far away you place your hot tub from your house, on average, you should budget between \$300 and \$1,000. depending on how much wire you need and if you require upgraded breakers and electrical panels.





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