

Please take the time to read this guide carefully, as it will provide you with the information you will need to ensure the safe, secure, and timely installation of your new spa. The following sections are guidelines on how to prepare for delivery and set-up of your new spa. Specifically covered are **site selection, delivery access, ground preparation, and electrical requirements.**

Please read the Owner's Manual that accompanies your spa, and complete the Warranty register within 10 days of delivery. These items, along with other valuable information, will be found in the Owner's Package which has been placed in the equipment compartment of your spa, where you will also find its serial number.

In most areas, permits are required for the installation of electrical circuits or the construction of exterior surfaces (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 under 5. Your spa 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. As a general practice, your local Building Dept. will inform you of any applicable barrier requirements at the time a permit is obtained for the installation of an electrical circuit.

## **SITE SELECTION & PREPARATION**

**IMPORTANT: Site selection and preparation are your responsibility. Carefully read these instructions and consult your authorized Pioneer Family Pools dealer if you have any questions.**

You probably have a spot picked out for your new spa, whether it's indoors or outdoors, on a patio or on a deck.

### **Make sure you check the following:**

Always put your spa on a structurally sound, level surface. A filled spa can weigh a great deal. Make certain that the location you choose can support the weight of your filled spa.

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 house's circuit breaker.

Leave yourself easy access to the circuit breakers in the sub-panel (when connected to 230 volts), or to the interrupter switch by the end of the power cord (115 volt models).

**Never let water get into the sub-panel** (when connected to 230 volts), into the interrupter switch (115 volt models), or into the electrical outlet that your spa is plugged into.

Leave access to the entire front of the spa (the removable panels provide access to the spa's equipment) for periodic spa care and maintenance.

## OUTDOOR & PATIO INSTALLATION

No matter where you install your new 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" thick is recommended for your Hot Tub and Spa.** The reinforcing rod or mesh in the pad should be attached to a bond wire. If you place the spa on the ground, even temporarily, place stepping stones under the leveling areas. The stones should be at least 2" thick and 12" square. Even with stones in place, the spa will inevitably settle and become unlevelled. Plus, a spa surrounded by dirt or grass will soon be filled with dirt or grass from users' feet; therefore, it is important to get it onto a solid foundation as soon as possible.

## 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 indoors. To find the weight of your spa, its contents and occupants, refer to the Spa Specification chart located toward the end of this document. This weight per square foot must not exceed the structure's rated capacity, or serious structural damage could result.

## INDOOR INSTALLATION

Be aware of some special requirements if you place your spa indoors. Water will accumulate around the spa, so flooring materials must provide a good grip when wet. Proper drainage is essential to prevent a build-up of water around the spa. When building a new room for the spa, it is recommended that a floor drain be installed. 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. An architect can help to determine if more ventilation must be installed. Your local Pioneer Family Pools dealer can help you with local information such as zoning regulations and building codes.

## DELIVERY ACCESS

**NOTE: Additional over-head clearance may be necessary if the spa will be rolled up/down an incline or moved up/down a short flight of stairs. If your spa delivery requires the use of a crane, you may be required to pay for its services at the completion of the delivery.**

First, locate the vertical dimensions of your spa (laid on it's side). Next, contact your local Pioneer Family Pools dealer to find the height and width added by the delivery cart which will be used to deliver your new spa. Use the height and width of the cart plus the height and width dimension of your new Hot Tub or Spa to determine the vertical clearance required to pass the spa and cart.

Use the information provided by your local Pioneer Family Pools store to determine the requirements for access to your desired location. It may be necessary to remove a gate, part of a fence, or other movable obstructions in order to roll the spa to its installation site. About ten percent of the time, a crane is the only way to install the spa by lifting it to its final destination.

If the spa has to be taken off of the cart to go over a wall (either because the entry area is too narrow, the eaves are too low, the corner is too tight, or the stairway is too steep), a crane will be required. Don't be alarmed! The crane has a truck-mounted boom which can fit right in your driveway. It is run by a licensed and insured operator. For a charge, the crane operator will lift your spa over walls, buildings, or any other obstruction and place it as close to the installation site as possible. Spa delivery personnel will supervise the crane delivery and complete the spa installation.

## GROUND PREPARATION

**NOTE: A reinforced concrete pad at least 4" thick or structurally sound deck able to support the "dead weight" found in the spa specification chart is recommended for your spa.**

Your spa has been engineered to perform on all kinds of common yard surfaces. While a concrete slab is best for long-term use (See Note), other foundations are acceptable so long as a level base is prepared prior to delivery. Examples of alternatives to a concrete slab for spas installed without gazebos or other accessories could include railway ties, pea gravel, crushed rock and pre-cast stepping stones.

## INSTALLATION NOTES

If stepping stones or railroad ties are selected for the spa foundation, they should be placed at the designated leveling areas of your spa to maintain even distribution of the spa weight.

Please note that soft surfaces, even when stepping stones are used to distribute the weight of the spa as evenly as possible, will still have a tendency to settle unevenly, resulting in an unlevelled spa.

Remember, placing the spa on grass or dirt may increase the amount of debris which is inadvertently brought into the spa water on the user's feet.

If you are purchasing a deck package or a gazebo with your spa, a solid foundation becomes mandatory. Placing them on any surface other than a single level pad could create problems with their installation. A few of the recommended surfaces for this type of installation are: concrete pads, brick surfaces and wood decking.

As a homeowner, it is your responsibility to provide a suitable, level foundation for your spa. Keep in mind that most delivery crews are not equipped to level and prepare spa sites.

If you are interested in having a concrete slab, brick surface, or wood deck installed, your dealer should be able to suggest a qualified, licensed contractor.

## ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

**NOTE:** Never connect the spa to an extension cord. All electric circuits must be installed by a qualified, licensed electrician. Your electrician should mount the sub-panel in the vicinity of the spa but it should not be closer than 5 ft from the spa water edge. After the spa has been installed your electrician can connect the conduit from the sub-panel to the spa's control box and then complete the wiring connections in the control box. Complete step-by-step Installation and Wiring Instructions for all models are included in the Owner's Manual.

**WARNING:** Removing or bypassing the GFCI breakers in the sub-panel at any time will result in an unsafe spa and will void the warranty.

Your spa's electrical requirements will be unique to the individual model and may require different voltage and amplification. As such, your spa's heater performance and wattage will depend largely on the voltage and amplification it's connected to.

All electrical connections must be made in accordance with the wiring information contained in the electrical control box or on the back of the field wiring access panel of the equipment module.

For your own safety, if you are having an electrician install an electric outlet for your spa it should be no closer than 5 ft (152.4cm) and no further than 10 ft (304.8cm) from the spa.

One GFCI is used in the cord-connected 15 or 20-amp configuration. The GFCI module is located at the end of the power cord. To test the GFCI, simply press the TEST button. The GFCI should trip to the "off" position, disconnecting power to the spa. To reset the GFCI, press the RESET button. The GFCI should reset, and power should be restored to the spa. If the GFCI does not function in this way, unplug the cord and contact an authorized spa service technician.