YOUR HOT TUB ENERGY EFFICIENCY CHECKLIST

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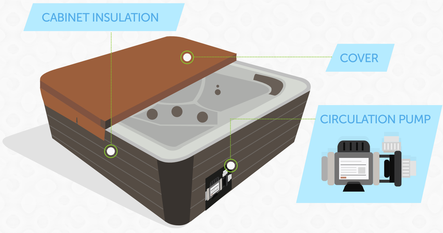
How much will it cost to operate your new hot tub?

Your ongoing energy costs will depend on a number of factors, including the ambient temperature outside, the size of the hot tub, and the frequency of use.
The most energy-efficient spas on the market often cost as little as $20 – $30/month to run, while less efficient models can be more costly.

USE THIS CHECKLIST AS YOUR GUIDE TO CHOOSING A HOT TUB THAT MEETS YOUR ENERGY EFFICIENCY NEEDS.

KEY FEATURES TO CONSIDER:



CABINET INSULATION

Your hot tub can lose a lot of energy through its walls. Here are **3 types of insulation** that can help keep the heat where it belongs – in the water!

Tip! For most models, it requires more energy to reheat the water than to hold it at a steady temperature. Try maintaining the water at your desired temperature if you use the hot tub frequently.

Full-Foam Insulation — Good ★★★☆☆

A ½ -pound-density urethane foam that fully insulates the space between the shell and the cabinet.

FiberCor™ Insulation — Better ★★★★☆

An innovative new material applied at a 2-pound density. It's 4x denser than the foam used on most hot tubs.

Layered Insulation — Best ★★★★★

Select models offer multiple layers of varying density foam to minimize voids and gaps for maximum efficiency.

DEDICATED CIRCULATION PUMP

A dedicated circulation pump offers maximum energy efficiency while keeping noise at a minimum.

A dedicated pump helps circulate water continuously using only a small amount of energy.

Without a circulation pump, the hot tub must rely on the jet pumps to circulate the water.

Some hot tub circulation pumps **use as little energy as a 40-watt light bulb.**

The **jet pumps draw more power and make more noise** than a low-watt circulation pump.

IF THE HOT TUB DOESN'T HAVE A CIRCULATION PUMP:

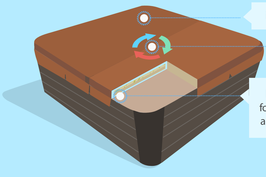
Set your pump timer to run for shorter periods during the day.

Call your local electric company about off-peak hours. Some companies offer lower rates during these times.

INSULATED HOT TUB COVER

Help keep heat contained with a hot tub cover that's well insulated.

AN EFFECTIVE COVER:



Tip! Remember to clean and condition your spa cover each month. If your cover is dry, brittle, cracked or sagging, it may be time to replace it.

CARING FOR YOUR COVER

Make sure to:

- use a cover lifter to keep the cover off the ground and make it easier to use.
- replace the cover when necessary to ensure maximum efficiency.

SOME HOT TUB MODELS OFFER THESE EXTRAS FOR INCREASED ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

Systems that allow heat generated by the spa's equipment to be recycled back into the water.

Jets and power that are set to levels you actually need (and no more), as high-powered jets can sometimes consume too much energy.

Make sure to find a local hot tub retailer you trust to help you decide which hot tub model and energy-efficient features are right for you!

SOURCES

http://homeguides.sfgate.com/save-hot-tub-electric-bill-39448.html
http://www.takecontrolandsave.coop/documents/HotTubsPoolPumps.pdf
http://ww2.wapa.gov/sites/western/es/pubs/Documents/HotTubs.pdf

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