Spa Pool Buyer's Guide

From the Experts at Hot Spring® Spas

BRISBANE SPA SUPER CENTRE™

HotSpring®

Every day made better®

Take The First Step Toward Owning A Beautiful Spa

Buying a spa pool is more than a home improvement investment—it's a self-improvement investment, a soothing solo retreat, or an oasis that you share with family and friends. A spa serves as a tangible investment in whole-body wellness, offering improved mental, physical, and relationship wellness. It's a place where you can unwind and truly feel your very best.

Shopping for a spa pool should be fun. But before you make a purchase, take a moment to review this Spa Pool Buyer's Guide and learn the practical tips that will help you find the perfect spa.

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Section 1: Spa Basics

Initial Questions

Ask yourself these important questions before you start searching for your spa...

What size spa pool do you need?

Spa Pools are available in a variety of sizes, from small spas to those designed for large families and entertaining.

Where will you place a spa pool in your yard or home?

You'll use your spa more if you position it for convenient access. While you'll need to prepare any outdoor area to accommodate your spa pool, indoor spa placement might require modifications to your home.

How often will you use your spa?

Spa Pools are designed for daily use, so look for a reliable spa that's manufactured using quality materials. A top-quality spa will last a decade or longer.

How will you take advantage of spa jet massage?

Do you want to relieve stress and soothe aches and pains in specific parts of your body through spa pool hydrotherapy? Choose a spa with jets placed in just the right spots to provide the relief you need—precisely where you need it. Pay attention to the pump horsepower, as well. The jets depend on a strong motor to deliver a good massage.

What's your spa budget?

Spas can range dramatically in price depending on the model, size, features, and the options and accessories you choose. You'll want to determine which features and options are most important to as you arrive at your target price. Many dealers offer financing options, which can mean low monthly payments instead of one lump sum up front.

Watch the following video to learn more about spa pool cost factors.

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Water Care

All spa pools require maintenance to keep water clean, balanced and sanitized. Traditional bottled chemicals can be used in any spa and require regular water testing and dosing to keep your spa pool ready to use. Many spa pools offer optional systems to make water care much easier.

When shopping for a spa pool, ask a sales associate to explain your water care options.

THREE TYPICAL WATER CARE SYSTEM OPTIONS		
In-line Cartridge	**Ozone**	**Salt Water**
These systems eliminate bacteria through pre-filled chlorine cartridges that automatically dispense sanitizers.	Known by many different names depending on the brand, ozone systems reduce the need for chlorine by generating a high concentration of ozone, which neutralize contaminants on contact.	These systems automatically generate chlorine from salt added to the water. With a salt water system, you can enjoy better water quality with less maintenance and reduced skin or eye irritation compared to other systems.

Think Fresh with the FreshWater® Salt Water System

The FreshWater Salt System is a breakthrough innovation that takes the guesswork out of keeping water clean, so you can spend less time maintaining your spa and more time enjoying it. Water is sanitized with a titanium cartridge that automatically generates chlorine from salt. Simply set the chlorine output level with the touch of a button. The titanium cartridge lasts four months and requires no maintenance. When it's time to replace it, you can do it in seconds without tools and without draining the water. When properly maintained, water life is extended, reducing the need to drain and refill your spa for up to 12 months.* It's the simpler, cleaner, fresher way to spa pool. Available on all Highlife® Collection and Limelight® Collection spas.

*Many factors affect the life of spa water, such as bather load and water chemistry. When spa water is properly maintained considering these factors, a 3-pack of cartridges will keep water clean and clear for up to a full year.

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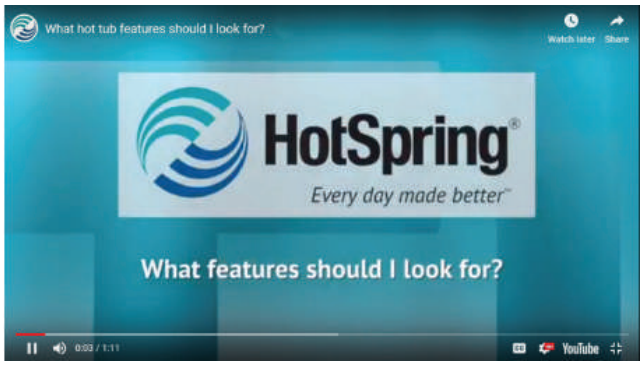
Features That Matter

Everyone's looking for a spa that's convenient to use, easy to maintain, and cost-efficient — but what about the personal details that make it yours? With most models, you can choose the color of the shell, cabinet, and cover. You can also customize your spa experience by choosing entertainment options and other accessories. So, before you buy, consider the features that are must-haves to make your spa pool dream a reality.

Watch the video below to learn more.



Spa Jets

Above-ground spa pools generally feature anywhere from 20 to 100 jets targeted to certain muscle groups to help you relax and emerge from your spa feeling your best. When comparing models, look for powerful, patented jets that will provide the type of massages your body needs. Also look for targeted jet groupings. More jets doesn't always mean a better experience. Often, fewer jets in targeted groups will provide a better, more focused massage. Jet groupings can also help conserve energy.

Moto-Massage® DX Jet exclusively available in Highlife® Collection spas.

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Water Features and Lights

Multi-color LED lighting and soothing water features can enhance spa enjoyment, adding ambience to the experience. As you think about how you will use your spa, consider how important these features might be to you. Find out if the spa you're considering allows you to adjust the lighting and water features based on your mood.

In-Spa Audio and Video Entertainment

Wireless Bluetooth® technology makes it easy to listen to your favorite songs and enjoy the best seat in the house while watching movies and TV shows right from your spa. If this is the experience you're looking for with a new spa pool, ask a sales associate or your local spa dealer to show you the models that will provide these options.

CoolZone™ Technology

With the CoolZone system, your spa pool can provide you with more than just a warm, relaxing soak. Your Hot Spring® spa can also offer a fresh, revitalizing dip on a hot day after working in the yard. It becomes a cool place for the kids to splash and play* during the day and a warm-water retreat for you to unwind later that night. For serious athletes, the option to bring the temperature of the water way down can mean soothing relief for muscles after an intense workout.**

*Never leave children unattended around water.

**Depending on ambient temperature and other factors. Ask your Hot Spring dealer for details.

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Connextion® Remote Spa Control and Monitoring System

If you travel often or own a spa pool at a second home, the Connextion remote spa monitoring system looks after your Hot Spring® spa when you can't and gives you instant access to it from virtually anywhere in the world. Connextion allows you to keep an eye on the filter status, clean-up cycle, lock and unlock controls, adjust temperature, and turn on the jets. That way your spa is ready and waiting for whenever you arrive home.

Spa Accessories

A few helpful additions to your spa pool can make it easier to use and more fun for everyone in the family. A spa cover lifter makes removing and replacing the dense vinyl cover simple while also helping you save energy by keeping your spa pool covered when not in use. Spa steps combined with a secure handrail can make entering and exiting your spa pool safer. A spa-side umbrella shades your spa from the hot sun, and a towel tree keeps all your towels off the ground and dry.

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Spa Filtration

Crystal clear water is essential to the spa experience, which is why a quality filtration system is critical. Every spa pool has filters that capture impurities and debris, and pumps that keep the water flowing through the system. But depending on the spa brand, the way they work together can vary.

What to Look for in a Filtration System

When browsing spas, pay close attention to their filtration system. You'll want a spa with frequent filtration cycles. Some spas feature a dedicated circulation pump, which circulates the water quietly and efficiently without requiring use of the jet pumps. If energy efficiency and quiet operation are important to you, choose a spa with a dedicated circulation pump.

Additionally, make sure the filtration system is easy to access for periodic maintenance. Most spa filters are cartridges. These should be easy to remove, clean, and change.

100% No-Bypass Filtration

All the water in Highlife® Collection spas is filtered all the time. In other spas, water bypasses the filters when the jets are on – which is when you need filtered water the most. Depending on spa size, each model includes up to five filters and enables all the water to pass through the filters, even when the jets are running.

Tri-X® Filters

These high-flow filters use exclusive three-dimensional technology to filter significantly more water than standard paper filters, which makes them an important part of our 100% no-bypass filtration system. This design provides more effective filtration area compared to any paper filter of the same size, so they don't require cleaning as often. When needed, you can put them in the dishwasher for convenience.

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Operating Cost

Spas require electricity to power the jets, the heater and to circulate the water, which can mean new spa pool owners generally see an increase in their electric bills. How much will it cost you to run your spa pool? The answer depends on the type of spa you buy, how often you use it, the temperature at which you keep the water, the ambient temperature in your area, and the cost of electricity where you live. The increase in your monthly electric bill can range from as little as a few dollars to much more, so it's smart to look for spas built for maximum energy efficiency.

To help minimize energy costs, spa manufacturers today produce more energy-efficient spa pools than ever before. Hot Spring® spas leads the industry in energy-efficient design and offers spas with Energy Smart® features that keep operating costs low.

When Shopping, Look for These Energy-Efficient Features:

- High-density insulation
- A continuous, energy-efficient water circulation pump
- Jets and controls designed for efficient use and personalized settings
- Heaters that maximize heat-to-water transfer
- A high-density, custom-fit spa cover

Monthly Energy Cost Calculator

Use the Hot Spring Spas energy efficiency table to estimate your energy cost per month based on spa size, mean ambient temperature, and your local electricity rate per kilowatt hour.

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Section 2: Buying Advice

Choosing a Brand

With hundreds of spa pool and models available from a variety of companies, it's easy to feel overwhelmed when beginning to search for the right spa pool. So instead of trying to select a model right off the bat, narrow down your search to a brand you trust first, then select a model.

Look for a Company with a Record of Excellence

Brands come and go and some may offer products that don't last. The most successful spa pool manufacturers offer reliable products, innovative features, robust warranties, and have earned industry certifications for their products. When you begin researching spa brands, look at the company history of each.

Read Customer Reviews

Read the customer reviews of spas online. You'll want to select a manufacturer and dealer with a commitment to transparency and accountability. When a brand openly engages, listens, and responds to customer feedback, you're much more likely to receive quality support after you buy.

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Call or Visit **Brisbane Spa Super Centre, your** Local Dealer

Brisbane Spa Super Centre can help you find the spa that fits your needs and can answer any questions you have about the brand. We are your trusted HotSpring dealer with a knowledgeable service department and friendly staff that will assist you before, during, and after your spa pool purchase. Call or email is to book a test soak, so you can experience the spa you're interested in before buying. Don't settle for anything less than the perfect shopping experience.

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Selecting a Model

After researching spas online and visiting a dealership, a few specific models might catch your eye. At that point, review the basics you learned above, and ask specific questions to determine what matters most to you in a new spa.

What size spa pool do I want or need, where will I put it, and how will I use it?

- On average, how many people will use my spa pool at once?
- Do I plan to use the spa pool for personal hydrotherapy, entertaining, or both?
- Where can I place my spa pool to make it easily accessible?

Do the jet and other features fit my needs?

- Where do I need to relieve tension in my body with massage jets?
- Do I want a lounge seat in my spa?
- Do I want lights, water features, and an entertainment system in my spa?
- Do I want a salt water, inline-cartridge or ozone water care system for my spa?

What is my budget for a new spa pool

- Will I finance my spa or buy it outright?
- How much will owning a spa pool cost me monthly?

What Makes a Hot Spring® Spa Better?

Over four decades, Hot Spring Spas earned its reputation as a leading brand and has sold well over one million spa pools. We believe our products can enhance your life. Making that true is what defines Hot Spring Spas. Our mission is to provide you with *The Absolute Best Hot Tub Ownership Experience*® with unparalleled massage, innovations that take the worry out of water care, and energy-saving features that keep operating costs low. With a Hot Spring spa, you can relax and see your days, your nights and yourself in a whole new light.

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How To Avoid Common Spa Pool Buying Mistakes

A spa pool is a large but worthwhile investment—one that will pay off for years to come. To ensure you purchase your perfect spa, you'll want to avoid the four most common pitfalls of the shopping process:

1. Not Accounting for Size and Space

Be sure to measure the area in which you will place your spa, including clearance around the spa so installers can access it. Taking simple measurements ahead of time will make installation easier.

2. Underestimating the Value of an Energy-Efficient Spa

Energy-efficient spas will save you money in the long run, keeping your energy bill lower even during cold winter months. Be sure to speak to a sales associate and read reviews about energy-efficient models.

3. Forgeting to Ask About Maintenance, Service and Support

Like a car or pool, a spa pool requires regular maintenance to function at its absolute best. Learn everything you can about the simple, quick spa maintenance that you will do yourself, like checking the chemical balance. Also keep up with your dealer for offers, services and support.

4. Ignoring Advice About Dealer Installation

Unless you're a trained professional, you'll want to avoid installing your new spa pool yourself. Certified dealers are trained to safely lift and move spas. A professional technician will deliver your spa pool and install it, making sure the plumbing and electrical elements are connected correctly and functioning optimally. Additionally, professional installation can save you money in repairs down the road.

Watch the video below to learn more about spa pool installation.

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A new spa is an investment in your well-being and happiness.

A quality spa pool is one of the most rewarding purchases you can make for yourself and your family. Whether you use your new spa to take advantage of its wellness and relationship benefits or you simply consider it a relaxing backyard retreat, a new spa pool can help you feel your very best each and every day.

Are you ready to take the next step and discover a Hot Spring spa? Contact us today to request a brochure or request a quote from Brisbane Spa Super Centre.

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