

Hot Tub Deck Planning Checklist

Questions to bring to your design meeting before we frame the space under your spa

Before Your Design Meeting

- 1 Find your spa's own spec sheet and its listed filled weight**
Bring the actual document, not a remembered number.
- 2 Decide roughly where on the deck you want the tub**
Placement relative to existing beams and posts changes how much new framing is needed.
- 3 Note whether the deck section involved is existing or part of a new build**
Reinforcing existing framing and framing new construction from scratch are different conversations.

Questions About the Framing Itself

- 1 Ask whether the joists under the spa need closer spacing than the rest of the deck**
This is one of the most common changes for a concentrated load.
- 2 Ask what footing type fits your soil, a concrete pier or a helical pile**
Soil conditions on your specific lot decide this, not a general rule.
- 3 Ask how frost depth factors into the footing design for your property**
This varies by municipality and is worth confirming directly.

Questions About Permits

- 1 Ask whether your existing deck permit already covers a hot tub, or needs an amendment**
Most municipalities treat a hot tub addition as a change to the original design.
- 2 Ask whether your design needs a stamped engineer's drawing**
This depends on whether your design falls within your municipality's standard deck specifications.
- 3 Confirm inspection stages with your building department before framing starts**
Footing and framing inspections are typically required before the deck surface goes on.

Bring this list, along with your spa's spec sheet, to your first design meeting.

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