

OUTDOOR RESIDENTIAL SELF-CONTAINED SPA AND HOT TUB GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Utilizing the 2015 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC), the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC)

- Spa/hot tub must have a locking cover complying with ASTM F1346 (ISPSC 305.1).
- Spa/hot tub must be listed and labeled in compliance with UL 1563 (ISPSC 1001.4).
- Must be installed per the manufacturer's installation instructions and the manufacturer's installation instructions must be available to the inspector (ISPSC 1001.3 and 1001.5).
- There must be no overhead power conductors with a maximum voltage of 750 volts to ground within 22.5 feet of the water surface (NEC 680.8(A)/IRC E4203.6).
- There must be no overhead communications conductors (e.g. phone, cable, internet, etc.) within 10 feet of the water surface (NEC 680.8(B)/IRC E4203.6).
- There must be no underground wiring under, or within 5 feet of, the spa or hot tub, except where the wiring is installed to supply the spa or hot tub (NEC 680.10/IRC E4203.7).
- Receptacle outlets (new or existing) shall be not less than 6 feet of the inside wall of the spa or hot tub (NEC 680(A)(3)/IRC E4203.1.1)
- All existing or new receptacles within 6 to 20 feet of the inside wall of the spa or hot tub must be GFCI protected (NEC 680.22(A)(4)/IRC E4203.1.3).
- The outlet that supplies a self-contained spa or hot tub must be GFCI-protected unless the spa or hot tub has integrated GFCI protection for all electrical parts within the unit, and it is so marked (NEC 680.44/IRC E4208.1).
- At least one general purpose receptacle outlet is required to be located within 6 to 20 feet of the inside wall of the spa or hot tub (NEC 680.22(A)(1)/IRC E4203.1.2).
- Electrical switches (new or existing) shall be not less than 5 feet of the inside wall of the spa or hot tub, unless separated by a permanent barrier such as a fence (NEC 680.22(C)/IRC E4203.3).
- A disconnecting means is required and must be within sight and readily accessible. The disconnecting means shall be not less than 5 feet from the inside wall of the spa or hot tub, unless separated by a permanent barrier such as a fence (NEC 680.12/IRC E4203.3).
- The top rim of spa or hot tub must be not less than 28 inches above all perimeter surfaces within 30 inches horizontally, or the perimeter surfaces must be equipotentially bonded to the spa or hot tub (NEC 680.42(B)/IRC E4204.2.2).
- All fixed metal parts including, but not limited to, metal-sheathed cables and raceways, metal piping, metal awnings, metal fences and metal doors and window frames within 5 feet of the inside wall of the pool or spa and within 12 feet above the pool water surface shall be equipotentially bonded to the spa or hot tub (NEC 680.26(B)(7)/IRC E4204.2.7).
- There must be no lights or ceiling fans installed over the spa or hot tub or within 5 feet horizontally within the spa or hot tub except if elevated 12 feet above the pool water level (NEC 680.22(B)(1)/IRC E 4203.4.1).
- Existing lighting outlets and luminaires located within 5 feet horizontally from the inside wall of the spa or hot tub must be elevated 5 feet vertically above the water level, provided the lighting outlets or luminaires are rigidly attached to the existing structure and GFCI-protected (NEC 680.22(B)(3)/IRC E4203.4.4).
- New or existing luminaires or outlets installed in the area extending between 5 feet and 10 feet from the inside walls of the spa or hot tub shall be GFCI-protected or elevated not less than 5 feet above the maximum water level and rigidly attached to the structure (NEC 680.22(B)(4)/IRC E4203.4.6)

2015 Code Requirements