

THICKNESS

The most important factor in the overall ability of the hot tub cover to retain the heat

SIMPLE EXPLANATION

In layman's terms, the thicker the cover the more it insulates. With the greater insulation comes greater savings in running your hot tub every day.

Here is how we recommend you choose your hot tub covers thickness. The price of the 6-4 cover is about \$45 more than the 4-2 cover. Your hot tub cover should last about 5 years. This means you will pay \$9 PER YEAR more for the 6-4 spa cover. If you believe our thickest cover will save you more than \$9 per year, then you are better off going with it. It is a onetime expense compared to the daily cost of operating your hot tub. In cold areas, the 6-4 cover will pay for itself over and over.

Helpful question: Do you always keep your water hot or do you heat your spa only when you use it?

Helpful question: How cold does it get and for how long each year?

DETAILED EXPLANATION

R-values below are calculated with 1.0 pound foam cores. R-value is the measure of the thermal resistance of a material or its ability to provide insulation.

6" to 4" taper R-24.9 (averaged)

5" to 3" taper R-20.7 (averaged)

4" to 2" taper R-16.5 (averaged)

FLAT COVERS FOR INDOOR OR PROTECTED LOCATIONS

5" thick and flat R-24.9 (actual)

4" thick and flat R-20.7 (actual)

Increasing from 1.0 pound foam cores to 1.5 pound foam cores increases R-values:

6" to 4" taper R-1.90 (averaged) or 7.6%

5" to 3" taper R-1.52 (averaged) or 7.3%

4" to 2" taper R-1.14 (averaged) or 6.9%

Increasing from 1.0 pound foam cores to 2.0 pound foam cores increases R-values:

6" to 4" taper R-2.95 (averaged) or 11.8%

5" to 3" taper R-2.36 (averaged) or 11.4%

4" to 2" taper R-1.77 (averaged) or 10.7%

Average spa cover weight

4"-2" taper with 1.0# foam 36 pounds

4"-2" taper with 1.5# foam 40 pounds

4"-2" taper with 2.0# foam 44 pounds

From [Wikipedia](#), "The resistance of each material to heat transfer depends on the specific thermal resistance, which is a property of the material and the **thickness** of that layer."

Dimensions

1. **Shape** selection
2. **Dimensions** – as required by the shape selection above
 - a. Measure the cover if you like the fit
 - b. If measuring the hot tub, measure from outside edge of the acrylic across to the outside edge of the acrylic on the opposite side
 - Side A – typically the longer side
 - Side B – typically the shorter side
3. **Fold** location – which side to fold in half
4. **Oversized** covers – any dimension over 96”
 - One side over 96” up to 102”. Other side less than 92”. 2 panel cover, + \$37
 - One side over 96” up to 102”. Other side 92” to 96”. 2 panel cover, 1.5# foam, + \$76
 - One side over 102” up to 144”. Other side up to 96”. 3 panel cover, 1.5# foam, + \$124
 - One side over 102” up to 144”. Other side up to 96”. 3 panel cover, 1.5# foam, + \$124
 - One side over 144” up to 192”. Other side up to 96”. 4 panel cover, 1.5# foam, + \$256
 - Both sides exceeding 102” – MUST be a Walk On cover and manually quoted
5. **Color** – view at http://www.beyondnice.com/Replacement-Spa-Cover-Colors_ep_49-1.html
6. **Skirt** – Measure from the bottom of the cover down

Options and Upgrades

Select from the following customizations so we can make your cover exactly as your needs require

Seal across the hinge - \$27

Standard covers have two little steam stopper pillows at each end of the fold or hinge, to keep heat from leaking out each end of the hinge. The Continuous Hinge Seal replaces those with an additional foam flap that runs the length of the hinge, so no heat can leak out through the otherwise un-insulated hinge area. This is about the surface area of a basketball that would otherwise be un-insulated. You can tell covers without a continuous hinge seal when they get snow on them as the snow melts above the hinge.

Vapor barriers

Hot tub covers are made with a component called a vapor barrier. Its job is to keep water from getting inside to the foam cores. 82% of hot tub covers fail from water logging. Once water logging starts, the end has begun. Hot tub covers end up weighing several hundred pounds and are unusable.

Options

Double thick wrap – 4 mil thick and twice as thick as the standard vapor barrier	\$20
Big Blue Barrier – 5 mil thick and made from a more durable material for even longer life	\$27

Density

The insulation inside hot tub covers comes from the foam cores. Standard covers come with cores made from 1 pound foam. For covers that will need to support weight, such as snow, we highly recommend upgrading to more dense foam to add the strength needed to keep the cores from breaking. Broken foam cores are not covered by the warranty.

Keep in mind the more dense foam adds little for the overall cover insulation. Core thickness is more important for that.

Options

1.0 pound foam cores	Included
1.5 pound foam cores	\$45
2.0 pound foam cores	\$67

THERE IS A SEPARATE PAGE BELOW WITH ALL THE DETAILS ON DENSITY!!!

Split corner skirt - \$24

The function of the skirt on hot tub covers is to keep the sun from damaging the acrylic of the hot tub. It provides no benefit toward keeping the heat in. The standard cover comes with a skirt that wraps around each corner. We offer a split corner skirt to help prevent the skirt from getting caught under the cover when the cover is closed. Should this happen, heat will leak out as the cover will not seal to the top of the hot tub.

Reinforced hinge - \$18

This upgrade adds a nylon strap, sewn inside the standard vinyl fold/hinge for extra strength when the cover will be hung from a cover lifter. The standard cover hinge is made from 4 ply vinyl only.

Additional 4 tie down straps - \$17

The standard cover comes with four tie down straps, complete with the attachment clips. An additional four tie down straps can be added for spa covers that will be in windy locations.

Corner speaker pockets - \$52 per pair

If your hot tub has raised speakers in the corners, we will need to make the cover with a pocket to go over the speaker for protection. We will also need either the make, model and year of your hot tub, or a drawing with detailed measurements for the location and size of the necessary speaker pockets.

Pillows

We can add a matching pillow or two to your order, and you won't have to pay additional shipping! Our pillows are covered with the same vinyl used for your cover so they match perfectly. They are made just like our covers except for the soft foam middle. The foam is wrapped in vapor barrier to prevent waterlogging. The vinyl has a mesh to allow water to drip from the pillow.

Each pillow comes with a strap to a counter weight so your pillow will stay in place on the edge of the hot tub. The counter weight is like a sand bag and hangs down outside the cabinet of the hot tub.

Strap placement and length

Our standard cover is made with one tie down strap placed on each of the four sides. Should you require your tie down straps to be located in a specific position, please enter the location.

The location is determined by the placement of the fold on the cover. Standing at the cover, and looking across the fold, we call the two sides in front of you the North and South sides. In the box below, enter your requested strap locations listing the sides and the distance from the edge (ignoring any rounded corner) to the center of the strap. A typical example would be: 2 North, 2 South 7 inches from the edge.

CORE DENSITY

Spa Cover core foam density – The single largest factor in determining the strength to hold weight such as snow and pets

SIMPLE EXPLANATION

We can build your hot tub cover with 1, 1.5 or 2 pound foam cores. The more dense foam adds very little to the insulation of the cover, but adds significant strength for supporting weight such as snow.

Please keep in mind, broken foam will void the warranty. Think of more dense foam as cheap insurance to keep the cover from breaking.

Helpful question: Did your last cover break or become waterlogged first?

Helpful question: Do you know which density foam cores your last cover had? If not, cannot make your decision based on it.

DETAILED EXPLANATION

The internal cores of hot tub covers are made from expanded polystyrene or EPS. We use virgin EPS only. The density of this foam is measured in pounds per cubic foot, and determines the strength of the spa cover.

Rough estimates of the limits of static weight loads across the entire spa cover:

4" to 2" taper, 1.0# foam	190 pounds
4" to 2" taper, 1.5# foam	270 pounds
4" to 2" taper, 2.0# foam	370 pounds
6" to 4" taper, 1.5# foam	500 pounds

**** Note:** All hot tub covers will perform differently due to size differences.

Shear – Strength Properties in pounds per square inch

1.0#	18 – 22 psi
1.5#	26 – 32 psi
2.0#	33 – 37 psi

Eco bundle upgrade
CONTROL panel cut outs, etc
Walk on covers
Soft covers

Component info
Vinyl
Mesh
Thread
Handles
Tie downs

Warranty
Freight

- Tracking
- Phone call
- Damages

Buying components

- Skin only
- Dimensions
- Foam thickness

Replacement inserts

- Dimensions
- Foam thickness
- Vapor barrier

Need a script for “how to measure” video

1. Cover to fit: tub vs cover vs cabinet
2. Dimensions
 - a. Round – maximum width
 - b. Elliptical (bowed out sides)
 - c. Not round
 - i. A – longer side
 - ii. B – shorter side
3. Fold which side in half
4. Rounded corners
 - a. Radius method
 - b. Corner length method
 - c. Diagonal method
 - d. Template
5. Cut corners
 - a. With radius?
6. Oversized covers
7. Color choices
8. Skirt length
9. Tie down locations
 - a. From edge to center of strap
 - b. Length measured from bottom of cover ignoring skirt
- 10.

Take pics for advertising of his new cover

- Artsy – nice background, etc.
- Corner / diagonal shot
- High above
- Corners
- Skirt
- Tie downs
- Handles
- SS Pillows or CHS
- Mesh
- Any/all upgrades

Write complete audio script. Have CS read for recording. Use video and pics to match with audio topics and points!

Intro: *This video will explain everything you need to know so you can feel comfortable ordering replacement hot tub covers. Pause the video after each topic so you can complete that step. Be sure to have paper and pencil to write your specifications as you go through this video. You will also need a tape measure, and, if you have rounded corners either a carpenter's square or something with at least a two foot straight edge – like a 2X4 or broom handle. Now, lets get started!*

1. Tub vs Cover
 - a. *First, decide if you are going to measure the hot tub itself or your existing cover. If you like the fit of your cover, we recommend measuring it. If not, be sure to measure to the outside edge of the acrylic of the tub itself – where you want the cover to end.*
 - b. *If your cabinet is larger than the acrylic shell of the tub, you can also choose to measure it. In this case, the cover will extend out past the acrylic lip of the tub, far enough to enclose both the tub and the cabinet.*
 - c. *Pause the video now and restart it once you have made this decision*
2. Dimensions
 - a. *Next, we will measure for the size of the cover, ignoring any rounded or cut corners for the moment.*
 - b. *For round covers, you only need to measure the maximum width*
 - c. *For elliptical covers, with bowed out sides, please contact us to see if we have a template*
 - d. *For egg or kidney shaped, please contact us to see if we have a template*
 - e. *For all covers with straight sides, measure the overall maximum length and maximum width ignoring any rounded or cut corners. If one side is longer than the other, use this length for the A dimension. The other side's length will be the B dimension. Please pause the video now and write down the A and B lengths.*
3. *Typically, the longer side of the cover, the A dimension you just wrote down, is folded in half. Pause the video now and write down "Fold A" or "Fold B".*
4. Rounded corners
 - a. *Next, lets determine the radius of the rounded corners. Based on your ability and the tools you have, we will detail four different methods you can choose from. For the radius only, round down instead of up if you are unsure or if the radius falls between inch marks. This way, we will cut less off the corner of the cover and it will be sure to big enough for the corner.*
 - b. *If you have a carpenter's square, use this method. Place the carpenter's square on the corner. The radius is the point at which the curve begins.*
 - c. *If you only have measuring tape and straight edge, use the same method, measuring back from the straight edge to the tub. The radius is again the point where the curve begins.*
 - d. *Another option is to use the corner length method. This can also be used to confirm the radius determined by any of the other methods. Take a piece of string and lay it so that it lays on the corner and measures the total length of the curve of the corner. Multiply this length times 0.6366 to determine the corner radius.*
 - e. Diagonal method
 - f. Template
5. Cut corners
 - a. With radius?
6. Oversized covers
7. Color choices
8. Skirt length

9. Tie down locations
 - a. From edge to center of strap
 - b. Length measured from bottom of cover ignoring skirt