

Spa hard covers - relevant section from nz standard 8500:2006

working towards safer pools....

nz standard 8500:2006:safety barriers around swimming pools, spas and hot tubs

- bmh spa hardcovers are designed to meet the requirements of n.z. standard 8500:2006.
- compliance to this standard is subject to the cover being installed and maintained as directed in 3.10 of the standard.
- if you want to comply you must follow the installation and maintenance guidelines set out.

excerpts from nz standard 8500:2006

3.10 above-ground spas and hot tubs

above-ground spas and hot tubs shall meet all of the following

(a) the top of the spa pool or hot tub shall be positioned with the entire top surface not less than 760mm above the surrounding ground or deck;

(b) the cover shall be lockable and shall be kept locked when the spa pool or hot tub is not being used or supervised. a locking device shall contain a mechanical locking mechanism or a self-locking mechanism in addition to latching shut;

(c) the locks shall not be able to be readily opened or released by a child of up to the age of six years;

(d) when locked the cover shall be fitted so that if lifted it does not release the locking device or provide a clearance greater than 100 mm;

(e) the cover shall be made of a material that if walked on cannot collapse and can withstand the weight of at least 20kg to ensure that it will more than take the weight of a child up to six years of age;

(f) the cover shall be constructed of material that meets ASTM F1346-91 to allow easy movement on and off the spa pool or hot tub;

(g) the cover shall be constructed with a taper from the centre hinge to the outside edge of the cover so that water will not pond on top of it;

(h) the cover shall have an evenly spaced locking device as required in (b) which shall be positioned to ensure the cover cannot be lifted more than 100 mm by a child up to six years of age, and ensures that the cover is fixed securely to the spa pool or hot tub;

(i) the cover and locks shall be maintained at all times in a good state of repair;

(j) warning stickers/signs shall be placed on the cover to advise that it shall be locked in place when the spa pool or hot tub is not being used or supervised (see below)

(k) removable steps, movable furniture, or other objects that can assist a young child to climb onto the cover, shall be stowed/stored away at least 1200mm from the side of the spa pool or hot tub.

3.10.1 non compliant above-ground spa pools and hot tubs

- failure to comply with 3.10 above will require a barrier/fence complying with the standard.