

## Outdoor hotpot - simple and self-built!



We are building a hot tub with a circulating pump and wood fire, we want to show how you can build something cool with simple means and enjoy a relaxing evening in the pool far away from civilization. There is also a cozy corner with sofas, a fireplace and a barbecue.

The pool is mainly built from pallets and a tarpaulin. It is best to lay a layer of pallets on the ground to provide a good base and to protect the grass a little.

On top of the horizontal pallets, make a circle that is as round as possible from either upright or horizontal pallets, with the top side facing inwards.

We also place a layer of insulating polystyrene between the tarpaulin and the pallets to protect the tarpaulin from splinters of wood and to keep the water as warm as possible overnight so that you don't have to start heating from scratch every day. The tarpaulin is now placed in the prefabricated pool. It should be laid out as smoothly as possible. Where there are creases, press them flat. To give the whole thing the necessary stability, two tensioning sets are threaded into the pallets all around and tightened. The tensioning sets can also be extended with a second set if there are not enough long ones available.

The heating system consists of one (or more) old boilers where the heating coil has been removed and installed in an oil drum, for example. A circulation pump draws the water from the hotpot, pumps it through the heater and then back into the pool. A fire is lit in the oil drum, the heating coil heats up and transfers the heat to the water. A slower flow rate increases the efficiency of the heating.

It is important that the water always circulates reliably. Otherwise it will heat up so much in the heater that dangerous steam explosions can occur! If you do not have a reliable power supply for the pump, be sure to provide a small generator!

If you want to operate the hot tub for several days, you should add chlorine to the water to prevent the formation of algae. Commercially available chlorine powder for pools can be used.



## **Source**

Pictures and text: Erlen ETG youth group