

Tub Training Flyer

We all know what tubs are, but working in our industry it's important to have a thorough understanding of the terminology as well as what we have available. This flyer will serve as a general overview of the definitions and terms used when discussing tubs.

What are the tubs we stock made out of?

Tubs are made of many different materials. The tubs we stock are primarily made from the following materials; fiberglass, cast iron, acrylic and enameled steel.

Fiberglass:

- The fiberglass tubs we stock are **Sterling** (also referred to as *vikrell*) and **Oasis**.
- Typically the least expensive type of tub
- Made by forming layers of fiberglass into the desired shape, then coating it with a resin
- Advantages: low cost, light weight, ease of installation, and a finish that can be repaired
- Disadvantages: they flex; lower durability than other tubs; and the finish is prone to scratching and cracking, finish can fade over time



Cast Iron:

- The cast iron tubs we stock are **Kohler**
- Typically more expensive than other types of tubs
- Made by pouring molten iron into a mold of the desired shape, then smoothing it and coating it with a thick layer of enamel
- Advantages: very durable and resistant to chipping, scratching and denting. Also, the heavy material also tends to retain the water's heat
- Disadvantages: extremely heavy and require extra labor and often extra floor reinforcement to install, higher upfront cost



Acrylic:

- The acrylic tubs we stock are **Oasis** and **Kohler**
- Typically slightly more expensive than fiberglass
- Made with fiberglass sheets for reinforcement underneath vacuum-formed sheets of colored acrylic
- Advantages: the advantages are similar to fiberglass tubs except it is thicker and more durable
- Disadvantages: lower durability to other types of tubs, finish can fade over time



Enameled Steel:

- The enameled steel tubs we stock are **Boots**
- Typically an inexpensive tub
- Made by stamping a thin sheet of steel, then finished with a layer of porcelain enamel
- Advantages: durable, easy to clean. The finish is resistant to most common chemicals, and retains its gloss for a long time.
- Disadvantages: heavier than fiberglass or acrylic; the surface can rust and chip under impact; limited number of shapes and sizes available.



Decks, Aprons, Drains & Right Hand vs Left Hand

The **deck**, or “**lip**”, of a tub is the horizontal perimeter of the tub, typically where people set things in a tub.

The **apron**, or “**skirt**”, of a tub is the finished front facing side of a bathtub in 3-wall installations. The back side of the tub does not have a wall going from the tub deck to the floor.

A tub can be referred to **as left handed or right handed**. These are terms referring to which side of the tub the drain is on. If a tub is miss-pulled and the wrong hand is sent the customer will not be able to install it.

Left Handed



Right Handed



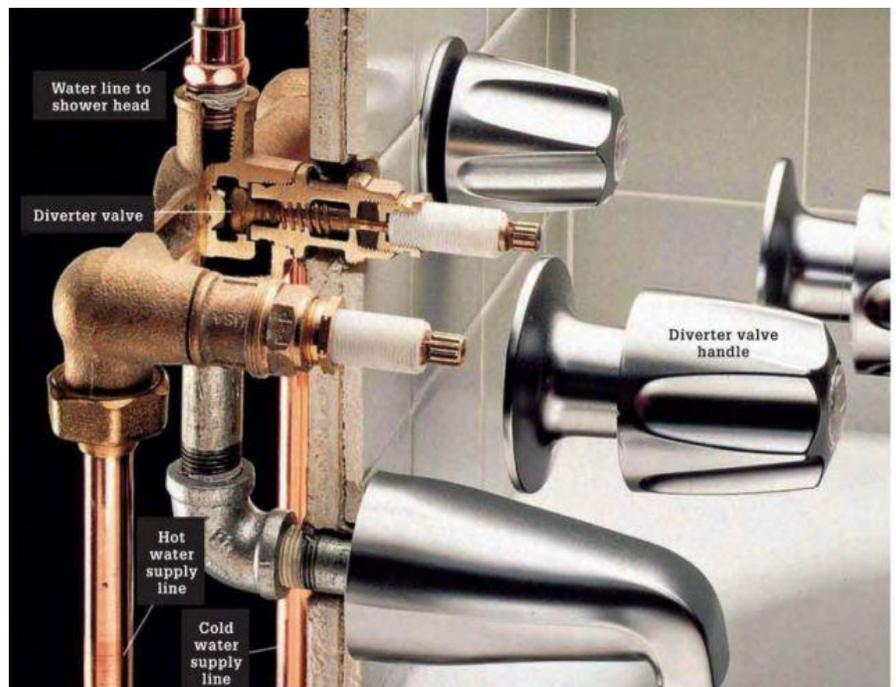
What's behind the wall (Supply Side)?

The supply side of the wall consists of the following:

- Hot water supply
- Cold water supply
- Diverter valve
 - (mixes hot and cold water)
- Diverter valve handle

In tub /showers, this assembly will also contain a supply line from the diverter valve to the shower head.

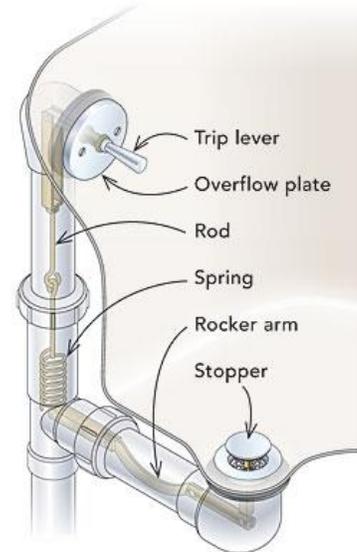
Our Customer Services Team can pre-fabricate these assemblies for customers. Then the customer just needs to hang it and connect the supply lines. See *Div 10 Customer Services training flyer* for more information.



What's behind the wall (Drainage Side)?

The drainage side consists of a:

- Drain with a stopper
 - The stopper is controlled by a trip lever.
- An Overflow Plate
 - On a tub there is a hole towards the top that allows water to be drained out if the water gets too high.
 - This is to prevent the water running over onto the floor and potentially causing property damage.
 - An overflow plate is a plate that covers this hole



Different Types of Tubs and Their Installation Methods:

There are 5 methods of tub installation. The installation method is based on the type of tub you are installing. Below is a quick overview of each.

- **Recessed (Alcove)**
 - Standard 3-wall installation
 - Tub has an apron and on finished exterior side
- **Corner**
 - Similar to the Recessed but designed to have two walls against the tub
- **Free Standing**
 - This is a tub that is not directly secured to any walls
 - Showers can be integrated but they are not very common
- **Walk-in**
 - Ideal for people with limited mobility
 - Has a door on the side so there is no need to step over the tub
 - Could also be a walk-in corner tub
- **Platform (Drop-in)**
 - Meant to be sunk into a raised platform or placed in a lowered floor
 - No external finish is required
 - Could also be a drop-in corner tub
 - Can also be under-mounted



Next Steps:

The first next step is to learn more. Below is a link to a short video detailing the different types of tubs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmCgsTPN6LU>