

Baths



Bathroom
Manufacturers
Association

BMA

Factsheet



Frequently asked questions

Q. Why are acrylic baths cheaper to buy?

A. Because they are moulded from flat acrylic sheet, they can be made quickly and are light to handle, install and transport.

Q. Are Acrylic baths of poorer quality?

A. No, particularly if they conform to stringent British Standards.

Q. The floor in my bathroom is uneven does it matter?

A. No, because all baths are supplied with adjustable feet which means they can be levelled up on an uneven surface.

Q. Will my floor support a cast iron bath?

A. Yes, although they are the heaviest of the

3 main types of bath they can be easily supported by a correctly constructed 2nd level floor, if required.

Q. Are colours available in enamels?

A. Yes but not as wide a choice as with acrylic because the colour matching process is more difficult.

Q. I want to swap the position of the taps when I install a new bath - is that possible?

A. Yes, many baths are available with taps in various positions to suit any bathroom.

Q. I have a small bathroom with limited space - are there space saving shapes and designs?

A. Yes, a lot of manufacturers produce compact dimension baths, which will help if there is a problem on space and availability of access.

Features

Acrylic

Moulded Acrylic with GRP reinforcement.

Wide variety of colours available.

Easily moulded shapes, to accommodate all sizes of bathrooms, and consumer taste.

Steel

Pressed steel sheet with porcelain enamel coating.

Strong construction and finish.

Cast Iron

Cast iron with antimony enamel coating.

Rigid, immensely strong.

Benefits

Warm to the touch, retains bath water temperature longer. Easy to transport, handle and install.

Colour runs throughout sheet so small scratches can be polished out.

Wide variety of shapes available from standard rectangular to intricate shaped double and corner baths.

Very strong and durable ideally suited for heavy usage.

Resistant to acid, alkali, hot water and impact.

Gives a substantial traditional feel. Ideal for "period" or reproduction bathroom style.

Does not require any additional reinforcement to the bath.



Cleaning: Clean your bath using only a soft cloth and warm soapy water. Rinse and wipe dry. DO NOT use abrasive compounds, pads or creams as these will damage the surfaces.



(1)

Acrylic (1)

Acrylic baths are moulded from acrylic sheet and reinforced for strength and rigidity. Generally reinforcement is provided by sprayed Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP).



(2)

Steel (2)

Constructed from pressed steel and finished with a porcelain enamel coating to give a strong durable finish.



(3)

Enamelled Cast Iron

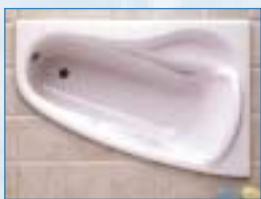
Constructed from cast iron with a coating of antimony based enamel 1.0 - 1.5mm thick, fired on at around 920°C.



(4)

Standard bath (3)

Generally rectangular in shape with many size options, the most common size being 1700mm x 700mm.



(5)

Corner bath (4)

Fits into the corner of the bathroom with each side of the bath being of equal length. Available in a number of sizes.



(6)

Off-set corner bath (5)

Fits into the corner of the bathroom, but has unequal length sides, giving more bathing space while occupying less room. Available to fit in the left or right hand corner.



(7)

Double end bath

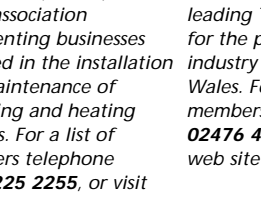
Generally rectangular in shape with the facility for fitting taps on the side of the bath, as opposed to the end, to allow two people to bathe together.



(8)

Shower bath

Provides conventional bathing with additional facility for over bath showering. Usually available as left or right hand options depending on which end of the bath is to be used for showering.



(9)

Rolltop bath (6)

Free standing bath on feet often recognised as "The Traditional" look, also available in very modern contemporary designs.

Baseboard (7)

A baseboard is attached to the underside of an acrylic bath for strength and rigidity, sometimes it is also encapsulated within the bath for reinforcement.

Cradle (7)

A steel frame supports and reinforces an acrylic bath from the underside, usually with adjustable feet for levelling on uneven floors.

Contact details for plumbing organisations.



Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers

Federation (SNIPEF) is the trade association representing businesses involved in the installation and maintenance of plumbing and heating systems. For a list of members telephone 0131 225 2255, or visit the website www.snipef.org



The Association of

Plumbing & Heating Contractors (APHC) is the leading Trade Association for the plumbing & heating industry in England & Wales. For a list of members telephone 02476 470626 or visit the web site www.aphc.co.uk



The Institute of Plumbing and Heating

(IPHE) is the professional body for the UK plumbing industry. For a list of members telephone 01708 472791, or visit the web site www.plumbers.org.uk

The Bathroom Manufacturers Association (BMA) is the trade association that represents the major manufacturers of bathroom products, ranging from sanitaryware, baths, taps, showers, enclosures, accessories and furniture.

Members of the BMA offer products with an outstanding combination of quality, style, design, colour and availability.