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## Balboa Water Group VL404

# Balboa Water Group VL404 4-Button Topside Control Panel Instruction Manual

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This instruction manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Balboa Water Group VL404 4-Button Topside Control Panel. The VL404 is an electronic control unit designed for use with compatible Balboa spa control systems, allowing users to manage various functions of their hot tub or spa.

### 1.1. Product Overview

The Balboa VL404 is a rectangular, 4-button topside control panel featuring a clear casing and an RJ45 8-wire cord for connection to the spa pack. It is designed to provide intuitive control over your spa's jets, lighting, and temperature settings. Please note that this unit is supplied without an overlay, meaning the button functions will be determined by the specific spa pack configuration and any overlay you choose to apply.

### 1.2. Package Contents

- Balboa Water Group VL404 Topside Control Panel
- Integrated RJ45 8-wire cord (7 ft length)

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Read all safety instructions carefully before installing or operating the control panel. Failure to follow these instructions could result in personal injury or property damage.

- **Electrical Safety:** Installation should only be performed by a qualified electrician or spa technician. Ensure the spa's power supply is disconnected at the circuit breaker before attempting any installation or service.
- **Water Proximity:** This control panel is designed for use in a wet environment. However, ensure all connections are secure and sealed to prevent water ingress into the spa pack or electrical components.
- **Component Compatibility:** Use only genuine Balboa Water Group replacement parts and ensure

compatibility with your existing spa control system.

- **Children:** Keep children away from the spa control system during installation and maintenance.

### 3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The VL404 topside control panel is designed for straightforward replacement or new installation. Always ensure the spa's power is OFF before proceeding.

#### 3.1. Preparing for Installation

1. Turn off all power to the spa at the main circuit breaker. Verify that the power is off using a voltage tester.
2. If replacing an existing panel, carefully disconnect the old panel's RJ45 connector from the spa pack.
3. Clean the mounting surface on the spa shell to ensure proper adhesion for the new panel.

#### 3.2. Connecting the Control Panel



Figure 1: Angled view of the VL404 control panel showing the RJ45 cable connection.

1. Locate the RJ45 port on your Balboa spa pack. This port is typically labeled for topside control.
2. Carefully insert the RJ45 8-wire connector from the VL404 control panel into the corresponding port on the spa pack until it clicks securely into place. Ensure the cable is routed to prevent pinching or damage.

#### 3.3. Mounting the Control Panel



Figure 2: Rear view of the VL404 control panel, illustrating the adhesive backing for mounting.

1. Remove the protective backing from the adhesive on the rear of the control panel.
2. Align the panel with the cutout on your spa shell. Ensure the cable is properly routed through the opening.
3. Press the panel firmly onto the spa shell, holding it in place for a few seconds to ensure good

adhesion.

### 3.4. Initial Power-Up

1. Once the panel is securely installed and connected, restore power to the spa at the main circuit breaker.
2. The control panel display should illuminate, and the spa system will typically go through a self-test or priming cycle.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Balboa VL404 control panel provides access to your spa's primary functions. Since this panel is supplied without an overlay, the exact function of each of the 4 buttons will depend on your spa's specific configuration and the overlay applied. Common functions for a 4-button panel are typically Jets, Light, Temperature Up, and Temperature Down.



Figure 3: Front view of the VL404 control panel's internal components, showing the display and button locations.

### 4.1. Display

The panel features a 3-digit LED display that typically shows the current water temperature, set temperature, and various status indicators (e.g., heating, filtering).

### 4.2. Button Functions (Typical)

Refer to your spa's main owner's manual or the specific overlay for precise button assignments. The following are common functions:

- **Button 1 (e.g., Jets):** Press to turn the primary jet pump on or off. Multiple presses may cycle through different jet speeds or pumps.
- **Button 2 (e.g., Light):** Press to turn the spa light on or off. Multiple presses may cycle through different light modes or colors.
- **Button 3 (e.g., Temp Up):** Press to increase the desired water temperature.
- **Button 4 (e.g., Temp Down):** Press to decrease the desired water temperature.

**Note:** Some spa systems may require pressing a 'Mode' or 'Program' button (if available on your overlay) to access advanced settings or change temperature set points.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

Proper care and maintenance will extend the life of your control panel.

- **Cleaning:** Clean the panel surface regularly with a soft, damp cloth. Use a mild, non-abrasive cleaner if necessary. Avoid harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive pads, as these can damage the clear casing and display.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the RJ45 cord for any signs of wear, cuts, or damage. Ensure the panel remains securely mounted to the spa shell.
- **Water Exposure:** While designed for spa environments, avoid directing high-pressure water jets directly at the panel.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your VL404 control panel, try the following basic troubleshooting steps:

- **Panel Not Responding / No Display:**

- Ensure the spa has power at the main circuit breaker.
- Check the RJ45 cable connection at both the topside panel and the spa pack to ensure it is securely seated.
- If the issue persists, the spa pack may have a fault, or the topside panel may require replacement.

- **Incorrect Temperature Reading:**

- This is typically related to the spa's temperature sensor, not the topside panel itself. Consult your spa pack manual for sensor troubleshooting.

- **Buttons Not Functioning:**

- Ensure the panel is clean and free of debris that might obstruct button presses.
- Verify the RJ45 connection.
- If only specific buttons fail, the panel may be faulty.

For more complex issues, consult your spa's main control system manual or contact a qualified spa technician.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Manufacturer	Balboa Water Group
Model	VL404
Part Number	G8244
Topside Type	Electronic
Number of Buttons	4
Overlay	Not included
Topside Shape	Rectangular
Cord Connector Type	RJ45, 8-Wire

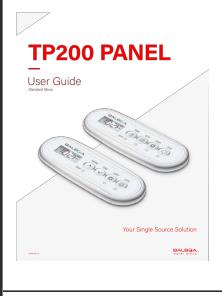
Cord Length	7 ft
Panel Size	7-3/8" x 3-1/4" (approx. 18.73 cm x 8.26 cm)
Product Dimensions	7.25 x 3.25 x 3 inches (approx. 18.42 x 8.26 x 7.62 cm)

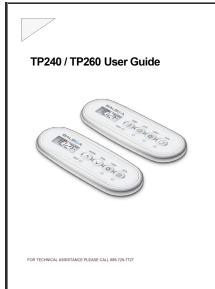
## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the documentation provided at the time of purchase or contact your authorized Balboa Water Group dealer. Warranty terms and conditions may vary.

For technical support or further assistance, please contact your spa manufacturer or a certified Balboa Water Group service technician.

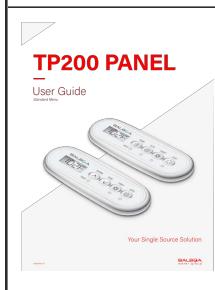
### Related Documents - VL404

 <p><b>TP200 PANEL</b> User Guide Your Single Source Solution BALBOA</p>	<p><a href="#">Balboa TP200 Panel User Guide</a> Comprehensive user guide for the Balboa TP200 spa control panel, detailing operation, features, settings, maintenance reminders, and troubleshooting for optimal spa use.</p>
 <p>ControlMySpa™ User Guide www.balboawater.com/us/controlmyspa</p>	<p><a href="#">ControlMySpa™ Spa Owner User Guide - Balboa Water Group</a> Comprehensive user guide for the Balboa Water Group ControlMySpa™ system. Learn how to set up the Gateway Ultra hardware, download and use the mobile app, access the web portal, and manage your spa remotely.</p>
 <p><b>TP700 PANEL</b> User Guide Your Single Source Solution BALBOA</p>	<p><a href="#">Balboa Water Group TP700 Panel User Guide</a> Comprehensive user guide for the Balboa Water Group TP700 Panel, detailing its features, operation, settings, and troubleshooting for spa control systems.</p>
 <p>spaTouch 2 &amp; 3 Installation Guide www.balboawater.com/us/installationspa</p>	<p><a href="#">Balboa spaTouch 2 &amp; 3 Installation Guide: Proper Topside Panel Mounting</a> This guide provides essential instructions for the correct installation of Balboa spaTouch 2 and spaTouch 3 topside control panels, detailing proper mounting angles and placement to ensure optimal performance and prevent warranty issues.</p>



### [Balboa Water Group TP240/TP260 Spa Control Panel User Guide](#)

Comprehensive user guide for Balboa Water Group TP200, TP240, and TP260 spa control panels. Learn how to set time, temperature, filter cycles, manage settings, understand panel messages, and perform maintenance.



### [Balboa TP200 Panel User Guide](#)

Comprehensive user guide for the Balboa TP200 spa control panel, detailing its interface, functions, settings, and troubleshooting.