

HOW TO INSTALL A GAS WATER HEATER

STEP 1: Drain the tank

Turn off the water, power and gas supply. Attach a garden hose to the drain valve and empty the tank. Turn on a hot water faucet to allow air into the system to help it drain.



STEP 2: Disconnect the gas and water lines

Disconnect the gas line. Disconnect the water lines above the tank using two adjustable wrenches or pipe wrenches. If the piping was soldered into place, use a tubing cutter to cut the pipe.



STEP 3: Detach the gas exhaust from the flue hat

Using a screwdriver, remove the screws connecting the vent to the water heater. Remove the old water heater. The water heater may be filled with sediment, so it may be heavier than a new one.



STEP 4: Set the new water heater in place

Install in an area with at least 6 inches of clearance on all sides for ventilation. Allow unobstructed access to the burner and controls. Place a carpenter's level on the side of the water heater and level it with plastic shims if necessary. Reconnect the flue hat to the gas exhaust vent.



STEP 5: Install water line connections

Measure and cut the water line connections to length. Reconnect the water line.



STEP 6: Connect the gas supply line

Clean gas line threads with a wire brush or rag. Apply piping compound to the threads of the black pipes as you connect them. Assemble and tighten each fitting with two pipe wrenches. Install the union fitting last because it connects the new line to the existing line. When finished, open the gas supply valve. Test for leaks by applying a wet, soapy sponge to the new gas fittings. Check for bubbles. If there is a leak, bubbles will form on the surface and you will have to refit the joint.



STEP 7: Test the water lines for leaks

Turn on the water at the tank, then turn on one or more hot water faucets to bleed air out of the system. Inspect the water lines for leaks.



STEP 8: Light the pilot

Rotate thermostat knob to "pilot" position. Press the knob in and hold it while pressing the piezo spark generator button once every 10 seconds until pilot is lit. Continue to hold the thermostat knob down until the LED "STATUS" light begins to blink. Release the knob and rotate it to the desired temperature setting. Set to a comfortable temperature, usually between 118 and 123 degrees.



If you need additional installation information, visit RichmondWaterHeaters.com