

<http://waterheatertimer.org/9-ways-to-save-with-water-heater.html>

<http://waterheatertimer.org/Figure-Volts-Amps-Watts-for-water-heater.html>

<http://waterheatertimer.org/pdf/Fundamentals-of-water-heating.pdf>



## FORMULAS & FACTS

**BTU (British Thermal Unit)** is the heat required to raise 1 pound of water 1°F

$$1 \text{ BTU} = 252 \text{ cal} = 0.252 \text{ kcal}$$

$$1 \text{ cal} = 4.187 \text{ Joules}$$

$$\text{BTU} \times 1.055 = \text{Kilo Joules}$$

$$\text{BTU divided by } 3,413 = \text{Kilowatt (1 KW)}$$

**To convert** from Fahrenheit to Celsius:  
 $(^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) \times 5/9$  or  $.556 = ^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

| FAHRENHEIT | CENTIGRADE |
|------------|------------|
| 32         | 0          |
| 41         | 5          |
| 60.8       | 16         |
| 120.2      | 49         |
| 140        | 60         |
| 180        | 82         |
| 212        | 100        |

**One gallon** of 120°F (49°C) water weighs approximately 8.25 pounds.

$$\text{Pounds} \times .45359 = \text{Kilogram}$$

$$\text{Gallons} \times 3.7854 = \text{Liters}$$

**% of hot water** =  
 (Mixed Water Temp. – Cold Water Temp.) divided by (Hot Water Temp. – Cold Water Temp.)

**% thermal efficiency** =  
 (GPH recovery X 8.25 X temp. rise X 1.0) divided by BTU/H Input

**BTU output (Gas)** =  
 GPH recovery x 8.25 x temp. rise x 1.0

**BTU output (Electric)** =  
 BTU Input (Not exactly true due to minimal flange heat loss.)

**Capacity of a cylindrical tank**  
 – 1/2 diameter (in inches)  
 x 3.146 x length. (in inches)  
 Divide by 231 for gallons.

**Doubling the diameter**  
 of a pipe will increase its flow capacity (approximately) 5.3 times.

**Linear expansion of pipe**  
 – in inches per 100 Ft.

| TEMP °F RISE | STEEL | COPPER |
|--------------|-------|--------|
| 50°          | 0.38" | 0.57"  |
| 100°         | .076" | 1.14"  |
| 125°         | .092" | 1.40"  |
| 150°         | 1.15" | 1.75"  |

**Grain** – 1 grain per gallon = 17.1 Parts Per million  
 (measurement of water hardness)



# A.O. Smith Water Heaters

## FORMULAS & FACTS

**GPH (Gas) =**  
(BTU/H Input X % Eff.) divided by  
(temp. rise x 8.25)

**GPH (Electric) =**  
(KW x 3413) divided by  
(temp. rise x 8.25) or (KW x 414)  
divided by (temp rise.)

**KW required =**  
(GPH X 8.25 X temp. rise)  
divided by 3413 or  
(GPH x Temp. rise) divided by 414

**1 KW =**  
3413 BTH = 4.1 GPH @ 100° temp.  
rise or 4.6 GPH @ 80° temp. rise

**Meters = Inches x .0254**  
**Centimeters = Inches X 2.54**  
**mm (millimeters) = Inches x 25.4**

**One boiler horsepower (BHP) =**  
33,475 BTU

**One cubic foot** of Natural Gas  
contains about 1000 BTU of heat.

**One "therm"** is equal to  
100,000 BTU (100 CU. FT.)

**One cubic foot** of Propane Gas  
contains about 2500 BTU of heat.

**One gallon** of Propane gas contains  
about 91,250 BTU of heat.

**One pound** of Propane gas contains  
about 21,600 BTU of heat.

One pound of **gas pressure**  
is equal to 27.7 inches water  
column pressure

*Inches of Water Column  
x .036091 = PSI*

*Inches of Water Column  
x .073483 = Inches of  
Mercury (Hg.)*

*One pound per sq. in.  
= 16 oz per sq. in.*

**Water expands**  
approximately 2% in volume  
for a 100°F temperature rise  
(from 40°F to 140°F)

**Water confined**  
to a storage tank or piping  
system, when subjected  
to a temperature rise of 10°F  
(increasing from 75° to 85°),  
**increases pressure** from  
50 psi to 250 psi.

### Water capacity of copper tubing per foot

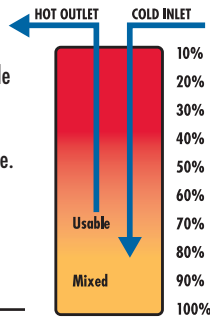
| TUBING SIZE | 1/2  | 3/4  | 1    | 1 1/2 | 2    | 3    |
|-------------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| g/ft type L | .012 | .025 | .044 | 0.92  | .161 | .354 |

FORMULAS & FACTS



## COMMON TERMS

**Draw efficiency** is the quantity of hot water available to the consumer before the outlet water temperature decreases 25°F. A 40-gallon water heater will typically provide 70% (28 gallons) within this temperature range. The burner or elements are allowed to operate during this test. Incoming, cold water mixes the remaining stored water below this 25° limitation.



**Energy factor** is an indicator of the combined thermal efficiency and standby efficiency of a water heater. The higher the energy factor, the more efficient the water heater will be.

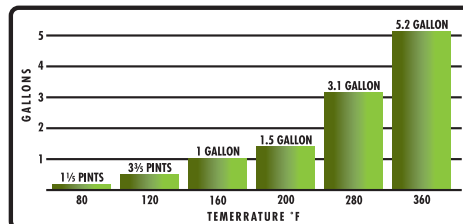
### What Happens When Water Is Heated:

- 1 The relationship between water temperature and time to burn normal adult skin.

| WATER TEMP. °F | TIME FOR 1ST DEGREE BURN  | TIME FOR PERMANENT BURNS (2nd AND 3rd DEGREE) |
|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 105            | Normal shower temperature |   |
| 122            | 1 minute                  | 5 minutes                                     |
| 131            | 5 seconds                 | 25 seconds                                    |
| 140            | 2 seconds                 | 5 seconds                                     |

- 2 Water cannot (for all practical purposes) be compressed.
- 3 Water expands when it is heated. Approximately .00023% per degree F temperature rise.

*This expansion will result in a pressure increase in a "closed" system. Water confined to a storage tank or piping system will, when subjected to a temperature rise of 10°F (increasing from 75°F to 85°F) increase in pressure from 50 psi to 250 psi.*

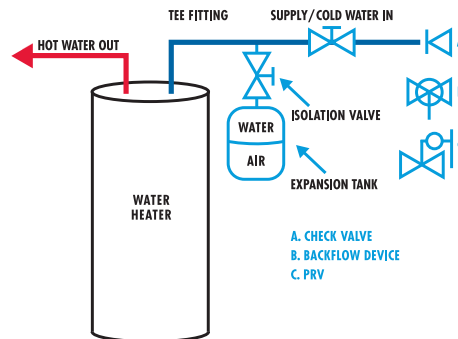


TC-093

COMMON TERMS

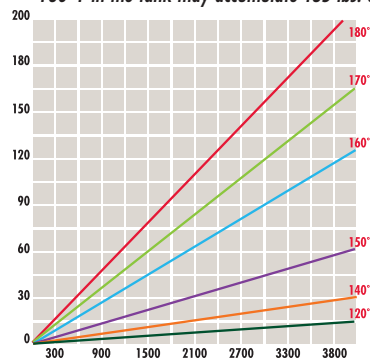


## COMMON TERMS



The closed system illustrated requires the thermal expansion tank because of the preceding #2 and #3 facts.

- 4 **Gases** in the water **will separate** from the water as temperature rises.
- 5 **Water boils at 212°F** – at sea level – unless it is contained under pressure. At 52 psi gauge pressure, water would not boil until it exceeded 300° F.
- 6 **Minerals** in the water **will separate** from the water as temperature is added. This may lead to a much faster scaling rate in the tank.  
*Ex: 10 grains hardness; 2700 gallons of hot water per day.  
 Water stored at 140°F in the tank may accumulate 19 lbs. of lime per year.  
 160°F in the tank may accumulate 85 lbs. of lime per year.  
 180°F in the tank may accumulate 135 lbs. of lime per year.*



- 7 Adding heat to water may make it **more corrosive**.  
*Water may be 2 times more corrosive at 160°F than at 140°F.  
 Water may be 2 times more corrosive at 180°F than at 160°F.*

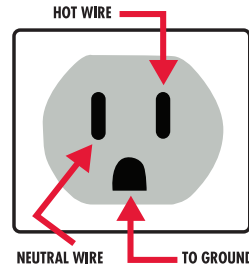
TC-093

COMMON TERMS



## COMMON TERMS

**Polarity** – Verify that an electrical socket has correct “polarity.” Verify that the “Neutral” (typically white on a 120V circuit) wire has no power to ground and that the “Hot” (typically black wire on a 120V circuit) has 115 – 125V to ground.



**Watts** divided by Volts  
= Amps (single phase)

**Volts** x amps = watts.

(**Watts** x .557) divided by  
(Volts) = Amps (3 phase)

**Volts** divided by amps  
= ohms (resistance)

**For insulating purposes “R” value** is a measure of the resistance of a substance to heat flow.

**Recovery rate** is the amount of water that is heated to a specific temperature rise, per hour. An example might be that a water heater has a recovery rate of 30 gallons of water per hour at 80° F temperature rise.

**Thermal efficiency** is approximately the percentage of generated BTU that enters the stored water. A percentage of the total BTU input passes out through the vent piping.

**Temperature rise** is the increase in the temperature from its coldest “inlet” water temperature to the desired hot (outlet) setting. Typically this is assumed to be 40° entering water; 120° desired stored water or 80° “temperature rise.”

**Standby efficiency** is the water heater’s ability to contain heat in the tank. A minimum of tank water heat loss per hour is desired.

Sample:  $\frac{\text{temperature change per hour}}{\text{“R” value}} = \text{BTU/H loss/square foot of tank surface}$

**Water hammer** is a concussion of moving water against the sides of a containing pipe or vessel on a sudden stoppage of flow.

**Ex:** 1/2” copper pipe, 5GPM flow (7.2ft/sec.) – stop.  
Pressure rise of approximately 412 psi  
3/4” copper pipe, 5GPM flow (3.3ft/sec) – stop.  
Pressure rise of approximately 188 psi

## ELECTRIC WATER HEATER HANDBOOK

**Amperage** (Amps) (1 phase) = **Watts** divided by Volts

**Amperage** (3 phase) = (Watts X .577) divided by Volts

**KW Required** = (GPH X 8.25 X Temp. Rise X 1.0) divided by (3413)

**Ohms** = Volts divided by Amperes

**One kilowatt** is equal to 1000 watts

**One kilowatt** is equal to 3,413 BTU

**Recovery Rate** = (KW X 3413) divided by (Temp. Rise X 8.25)

**Rise (F )** = (KW X 3413) divided by (GPH X 8.25)

**Supply electrical fusing** or breakers should be sized at least 125% of expected heater amperage.

**Water weighs** 8.25 pounds per gallon at 120 F (49 C).

**% of Hot water** = (Mixed temp. – Cold) divided by (Hot temp. – Cold)

### Heating element(s)

This style water heater will have one or two electric, heating elements immersed in the tank. One element will always be located low in the tank; a second element is commonly located down about 1/3 of the tank height from the top of the tank. These elements will seldom be wired to operate at the same time. (If they operate at the same time, amperage draw doubles, wire gauge size increases, fuse size increases and little is gained in heat recovery.)

| 1 KW             | Temperature Rise |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                  | 80               | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 |
| Gallons Per Hour | 5.2              | 4.6 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.2 |



**Formulas and Facts**

1 gallon of water weighs 8.33 lbs

1 gallon of water has a volume of 231 cubic inches

1 cubic foot of water weighs 62.38 lbs and contains 7.48 gallons of water

100 feet of 3/4" copper pipe contains 2.5 gallons of water; 1" pipe contains 4.3 gallons

8.33 BTU will raise 1 gal of water 1 degree F at 100% efficiency (electricity)

11 BTUs are required to raise 1 gallon of water 1°F at 75% efficiency (gas)

3,412 BTU equals 1 kilowatt hour (Kwhr)

1 Kwhr will raise 410 gallons of water 1 degree F at 100% efficiency

1 BTU X 0.293 = watts

1 KW = 1000 watts

2.42 watts are required to raise 1 gallon of water 1 ° F

1 Kwhr will raise 10.25 gal of water 40 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 6.8 gal of water 60 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 5.1 gal of water 80 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 4.1 gal of water 100 degrees F at 100% efficiency

**Formulas:**

| <b>ELECTRIC</b>   | <b>GAS</b>  |
|---|---|
| <b>Energy Costs:</b>  | <b>Energy Costs:</b>  |
| Kwhr x fuel costs = energy costs  | Cubic feet x fuel costs = energy costs  |
| If I use 100 kilowatt hours of electricity, how much will it cost if each kilowatt hour costs \$.05?  | If I use 100 cubic feet of gas, how much will it cost if each cubic foot costs \$.075?  |
| 100 x .05 = \$5.00  | 100 x .075 = \$7.50   |
| <b>To obtain gallons per hour (GPH) recovery</b>  | <b>To obtain gallons per hour (GPH) recovery</b>  |
| <u>WATTS</u>  | <u>HOURLY INPUT (BTUs)</u>  |
| 2.42 x (temp rise ° F)  | 11.0 x (temp rise ° F)  |
| I have a 30 gallon electric heater, non-simultaneous operation, 4500 watt elements. What is the recover GPH if my cold water is 40° F and my thermostat is set to 120° F? | I have a 30 gallon gas heater rated at 40,000 BTUs. What is the recover GPH if my cold water is 40° F and my thermostat is set to 120° F? |
| $\frac{4500}{2.42 \times 80} = 23 \text{ gallons per hour}$   | $\frac{40,000}{11.0 \times 80} = 45 \text{ gallons per hour}$   |



Formulas and Facts

Temperature Rise (°F)

WATTS

2.42 x GPH

I have a 30 gallon electric heater, non-simultaneous operation, 4500 watt elements. What is the maximum temperature rise if the heater can recover 23 gallons per hour?

$$\frac{4500}{2.42 \times 23} = 80 \text{ degrees temp rise}$$

Temperature Rise (°F)

HOURLY INPUT (BTUs)

11.0 x (GPH)

I have a 30 gallon gas heater rated at 40,000 BTUs. What is the maximum temperature rise if the heater can recover 45 gallons per hour?

$$\frac{40,000}{11.0 \times 45} = 80 \text{ degrees temp rise}$$

Formula for mixing hot water

$$\frac{M-C}{H-C} = \text{PERCENT OF HOT WATER REQUIRED TO PRODUCE DESIRED MIXED TEMPERATURE}$$

Where M = mixed water temperature; C = cold water temperature; H = hot water temperature

For example: How much of a shower is hot water and how much is cold water? My shower temperature is 105° F, my water heater thermostat is set on 120° F and the cold water inlet temperature is 50° F.

$$\frac{105 - 50 = 55}{120 - 50 = 70} = \text{79\% of the shower is 120° hot water}$$

*This formula for mixing hot water is important when explaining a NOT ENOUGH HOT WATER trouble call and the water heater is functioning properly.*

Electric Working Formulas that apply to Water Heaters

To verify circuit breaker OR amp draw on the heater:

$$\text{amp draw} = \frac{\text{watts}}{\text{voltage}}$$

$$\text{amp draw} = \frac{4500 \text{ watts (heating elements shown on rating plate total)}}{240 \text{ volts (shown on the rating plate)}}$$

$$\text{amp draw} = 18.8 \text{ amps (circuit breaker should be 20\% higher or 25 amp breaker)}$$

Now that you have solved for amps, what is the OHMS resistance of the heating element? (If a heating element has no resistance, then it is *open*, or broken.)

$$\text{ohms resistance} = \frac{\text{voltage}}{\text{amps}}$$

$$\text{ohms resistance} = \frac{240 \text{ volts (shown on the rating plate)}}{18.8 \text{ (answer from previous problem)}}$$

$$\text{ohms resistance} = 12.8 \text{ ohms}$$





**Estimated Annual Cost of Operation**

You can calculate the estimated yearly cost of operation for a water heater by using one of the following formulas:

**For natural gas or propane (LP) gas:**

$$\frac{41045 \text{ Btu}}{\text{EF}} \times \text{Unit Cost of Fuel} \$ \text{ per Btu} \times 365 = \text{Estimated Annual Cost of Operation}$$

For Example: Assuming a natural gas unit with an EF of .57 and fuel costs of \$.904 per therm -

$$\frac{41045 \text{ Btu}}{.57} \times \$0.0000904 \times 365 = \$237 \text{ estimated annual cost of operation}$$

*Unit cost of fuel = \$.904 per therm or \$.904 per 100,000 Btu or \$.00000904 per Btu*

**For electricity:**

$$\frac{12.03 \text{ kWh}}{\text{EF}} \times \text{Unit Cost of Fuel} \$ \text{ per kWh} \times 365 = \text{Estimated Annual Cost of Operation}$$

For Example: Assuming an electric water heater with an EF of .88 and electric costs of \$.0817 per kWh -

$$\frac{12.03 \text{ kWh}}{.88} \times \$0.0817 \times 365 = \$407 \text{ estimated annual cost of operation}$$

**Definitions:**

**Energy Factor**

Energy factor is a measure of the overall efficiency rating of a water heater. The higher the EF number, the more efficient the water heater.

**First Hour Rating (1st Hour Rating)**

First hour rating is the amount of hot water that the water heater can supply in the first 60 minutes of operation. It is a combination of how much water is stored in the water heater and how quickly the water heater can reheat cold water to the desired temperature.

**Fuel Conversions:**

- 1 therm of natural gas = 100,000 Btu
- 1 gallon of LP gas = 91,333 Btu
- 1 kWh (kilowatt hour) = 3,412 Btu

National average unit fuel costs as determined by the Department of Energy, Winter 2001 have been used in these calculations.

See the complete GAMA book and web site at: [www.gamanet.org](http://www.gamanet.org)

Check for fuel data and prices at the Dept of Energy website at: [www.energy.gov/dataandprices/index.html](http://www.energy.gov/dataandprices/index.html)



**Recovery Rating on the Residential Gas Water Heaters Labeling**

The formula and computations for the amount of hot water a gas water heater can produce are different based on the authority of the label. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) regulates the rating plate and has their formula; the Department of Energy (DOE) regulates the yellow energy guide and has their formula; and the specification sheet Gallons Per Hour (GPH) recovery is an industry accepted mathematical formula that has been in use for years.

Effective with the ANSI Standard Z21.10.1a-2002; CSA 4.1-2001, all residential gas water heaters must have the recovery rating listed on the manufacturer’s rating label. By ANSI definition, this recovery is listed in gallons per hour and is the result of the formula:

**Manufacturer’s input rating in Btu per hour**  
**1179 BTU/Gallon**

To show how this works, lets use an example of a 42V40-40F. This is a 40,000 BTU input 40-gallon capacity water heater.

- 40-gallon tank
- 40.4 GPH recovery at 90 degree rise per the specification sheet and industry accepted formula
- 33.9 gallons recovery per ANSI formula on the rating plate
- 70 gallons first hour delivery per DOE on the yellow energy guide label

As you can see, there is a wide range of delivery capacities notes on the water heater’s labeling.

Below is a table that will show you some normal BTU input results using the ANSI formula:

| Manufacturers Input Rating in BTU/hr | ANSI Constant | ANSI Recovery Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 26000                                | 1179          | 22.1                 |
| 28000                                | 1179          | 23.7                 |
| 30000                                | 1179          | 25.4                 |
| 32000                                | 1179          | 27.1                 |
| 34000                                | 1179          | 28.8                 |
| 36000                                | 1179          | 30.5                 |
| 38000                                | 1179          | 32.2                 |
| 40000                                | 1179          | 33.9                 |
| 42000                                | 1179          | 35.6                 |
| 44000                                | 1179          | 37.3                 |
| 46000                                | 1179          | 39.0                 |
| 48000                                | 1179          | 40.7                 |
| 50000                                | 1179          | 42.4                 |

| Manufacturers Input Rating in BTU/hr | ANSI Constant | ANSI Recovery Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 52000                                | 1179          | 44.1                 |
| 54000                                | 1179          | 45.8                 |
| 56000                                | 1179          | 47.5                 |
| 58000                                | 1179          | 49.2                 |
| 60000                                | 1179          | 50.9                 |
| 62000                                | 1179          | 52.6                 |
| 64000                                | 1179          | 54.3                 |
| 66000                                | 1179          | 56.0                 |
| 68000                                | 1179          | 57.7                 |
| 70000                                | 1179          | 59.4                 |
| 72000                                | 1179          | 61.1                 |
| 74000                                | 1179          | 62.8                 |

This recovery number may be different from the First Hour Deliver computation on the yellow Energy Guide Label attached to your water heater. The First Hour Deliver rating includes recovery, **PLUS** storage available and the units ability to reheat water while being consumed. Therefore, the First Hour Deliver number will be higher than on the manufacturer’s rating plate.



**Recovery Rates in Gallons per Hour - Gas Water Heaters**

**Temperature Rise - Degrees Fahrenheit**

|           | 40°  | 50° | 60° | 70° | 80° | 90° | 100° | 110° | 120° | 130° | 140° |
|-----------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| INPUT BTU |      |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |
| 20,000    | 45   | 36  | 30  | 26  | 23  | 20  | 18   | 17   | 15   | 14   | 13   |
| 26,000    | 59   | 47  | 39  | 34  | 30  | 26  | 24   | 21   | 20   | 18   | 17   |
| 28,000    | 64   | 51  | 42  | 36  | 32  | 28  | 25   | 23   | 21   | 20   | 18   |
| 30,000    | 68   | 55  | 45  | 39  | 34  | 30  | 27   | 25   | 23   | 21   | 19   |
| 32,000    | 73   | 58  | 48  | 42  | 36  | 32  | 29   | 26   | 24   | 22   | 21   |
| 34,500    | 78   | 63  | 52  | 45  | 39  | 35  | 31   | 29   | 26   | 24   | 22   |
| 36,000    | 82   | 65  | 55  | 47  | 41  | 36  | 33   | 30   | 27   | 25   | 23   |
| 37,000    | 84   | 67  | 56  | 48  | 42  | 37  | 34   | 31   | 28   | 26   | 24   |
| 40,000    | 91   | 73  | 61  | 52  | 45  | 40  | 36   | 33   | 30   | 28   | 26   |
| 50,000    | 114  | 91  | 76  | 65  | 57  | 51  | 45   | 41   | 38   | 35   | 32   |
| 57,000    | 130  | 104 | 86  | 74  | 65  | 58  | 52   | 47   | 43   | 40   | 37   |
| 60,000    | 136  | 109 | 91  | 78  | 68  | 61  | 55   | 50   | 45   | 42   | 39   |
| 69,000    | 157  | 125 | 105 | 90  | 78  | 70  | 63   | 57   | 52   | 48   | 45   |
| 75,000    | 170  | 136 | 114 | 97  | 85  | 76  | 68   | 62   | 57   | 52   | 49   |
| 98,000    | 223  | 178 | 148 | 127 | 111 | 99  | 89   | 81   | 74   | 69   | 64   |
| 100,000   | 227  | 182 | 152 | 130 | 114 | 101 | 91   | 83   | 76   | 70   | 65   |
| 114,000   | 259  | 207 | 173 | 148 | 130 | 115 | 104  | 94   | 86   | 80   | 74   |
| 156,000   | 355  | 284 | 236 | 203 | 177 | 158 | 142  | 129  | 118  | 109  | 101  |
| 160,000   | 364  | 291 | 242 | 208 | 182 | 162 | 145  | 132  | 121  | 112  | 104  |
| 180,000   | 409  | 327 | 273 | 234 | 205 | 182 | 164  | 149  | 136  | 126  | 117  |
| 199,900   | 454  | 363 | 303 | 260 | 227 | 202 | 182  | 165  | 151  | 140  | 130  |
| 250,000   | 568  | 455 | 379 | 325 | 284 | 253 | 227  | 207  | 189  | 175  | 162  |
| 270,000   | 614  | 491 | 409 | 351 | 307 | 273 | 245  | 223  | 205  | 189  | 175  |
| 300,000   | 682  | 545 | 455 | 390 | 341 | 303 | 273  | 248  | 227  | 210  | 195  |
| 360,000   | 818  | 655 | 545 | 468 | 409 | 364 | 327  | 298  | 273  | 252  | 234  |
| 399,900   | 909  | 727 | 606 | 519 | 454 | 404 | 364  | 330  | 303  | 280  | 260  |
| 500,000   | 1136 | 909 | 758 | 649 | 568 | 505 | 455  | 413  | 379  | 350  | 325  |

To figure recovery by hand and you know the BTU input:

$$\frac{\text{Hourly input (BTUs)}}{11.0 \times (\text{temperature rise } ^\circ \text{F})}$$

# Index

|   | Pages |
|---|-------|
| <b>I. Introduction To Commercial Water Heating</b>                  |       |
| Parameters .....  | 2-3   |
| What is Hot Water? .....  | 3-4   |
| Evaluating Water .....  | 4     |
| <b>II. Principles of Sizing</b>                                     |       |
| Hot Water Demand .....  | 5     |
| Profiles of Operation .....   | 5-6   |
| <b>III. Equipment Performance</b>                                   |       |
| Recovery Capacity Tables .....                                      | 6-7   |
| Storage Capacity And Tank Efficiency .....                          | 7     |
| Gas and Oil - Fired Tank Type Heaters .....                         | 8     |
| Electric Tank Type Heaters .....                                    | 8     |
| Auxiliary Tank (Unfired) .....                                      | 8     |
| Heater Recovery Plus Storage Tank Equals Demand .....               | 8     |
| Heater Recovery And Storage Tank Performance Comparison .....       | 9     |
| When Using Electricity to Heat Water .....                          | 10    |
| Estimating Water Heating Costs .....                                | 10    |
| <b>IV. System Types And Application</b>                             |       |
| Design Objectives .....   | 11    |
| System Types .....  | 11    |
| Tank Type Water Heater Systems Using Gas, Oil and Electricity ..... | 11-12 |
| Creating The Successful System .....                                | 13    |
| Sizing Without Prepared Information .....                           | 13-14 |
| One Temperature System .....  | 14    |
| Two Temperature System .....  | 15    |
| Field Assistance .....  | 15    |

This guide is different than most produced by the water heating industry. Instead of just referring you to prepared sizing information the guide shows you how it's done. Then, when new model heaters are

## Foreword

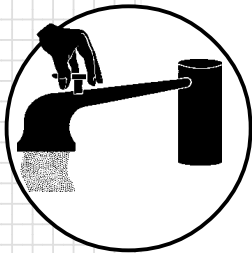
introduced or applications are different, you will have the information necessary to proceed on your own with confidence.

You will learn how to evaluate water characteristics which could affect system life and performance, develop a profile of system operation to establish demand and recovery periods, size energy and storage requirements to meet system demands and, all told, create a successful commercial water heating system.

## I. Introduction to Commercial Water heating

### Parameters

A water heater is an appliance for supplying hot water for residential or commercial use other than space heating. The maximum outlet water temperature for a water heater is 210°F ( 98.5°C).



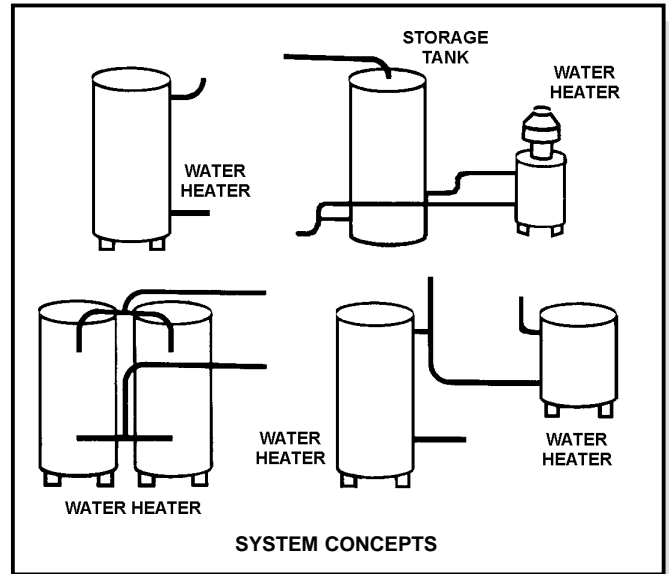
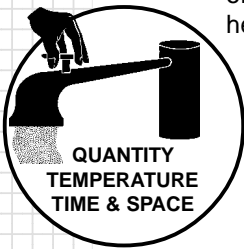
Water heaters are sometimes called boilers and may be so labeled. This is because the gallon capacity of the tank and/or the energy input is above a level for which some codes require ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) construction. Essentially the requirement applies when the water-containing capacity is in excess of 120 gallons or the heat input is above 200,000 Btuh (58.6 kw). Caution, some local inspectors interpret the code to mean including 120 gallons and 200,000 Btuh. The “boiler” requirement can cause cost escalation or system rejection if not taken into consideration by the system designer. One way that more expensive heater costs are often avoided is by combining several “smaller” heaters into a system instead of one large unit.

The term water heater and water heating system is used interchangeably in this technical guide. The water heating system may consist of one or more water heaters installed individually at points-of-use or manifolded together to form a central system. Some systems are comprised of water heater(s), with or without storage, hot water storage tanks, circulating pump, related piping and controls.

The major objective of this presentation is to promote the design of energy-efficient commercial water heating systems through proper sizing, equipment recommendations and system selection. Properly designed commercial and industrial water heating systems are essential to the health and well being of the community. Some activities would have to suspend operations or risk serious health and comfort problems if they do not have the quantity of hot water at the temperature needed during the time it is required.

Therefore, the key to proper water heating system design is to identify the quantity, temperature and time characteristics of the hot water requirement. Also, space available for equipment should be noted.

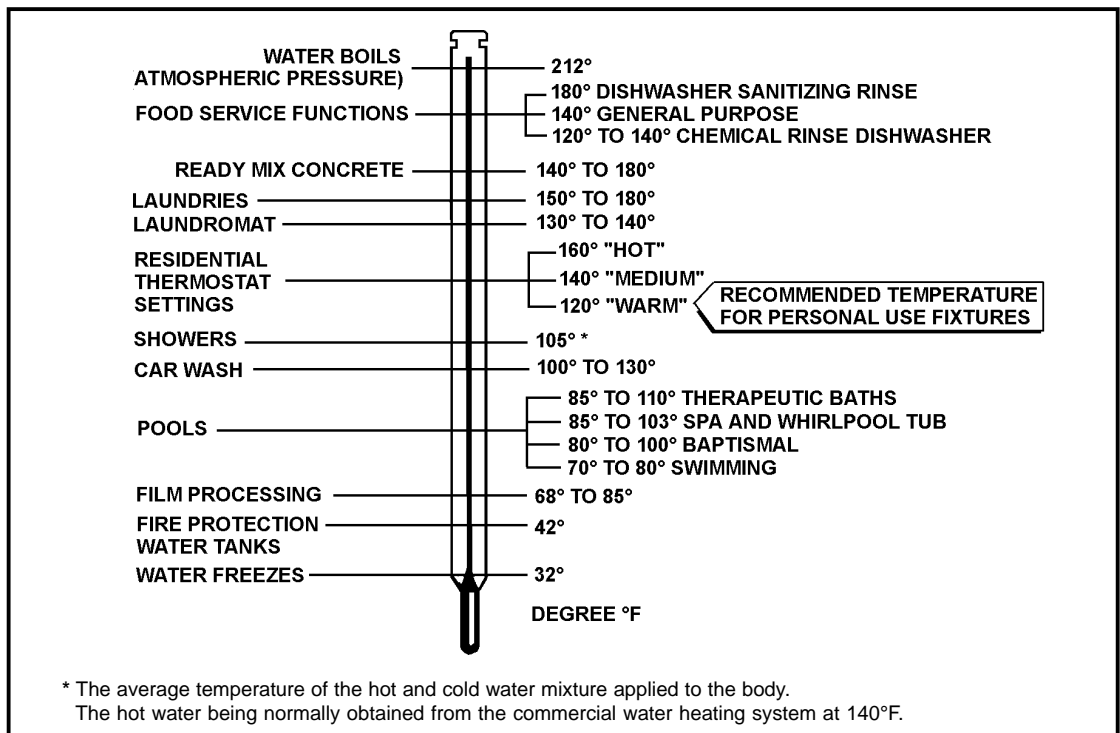
But first, a knowledge of water and its characteristics is necessary in order to effectively design a water heating system.

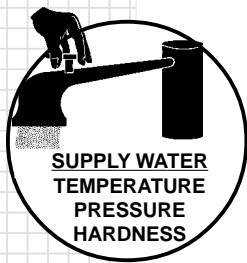
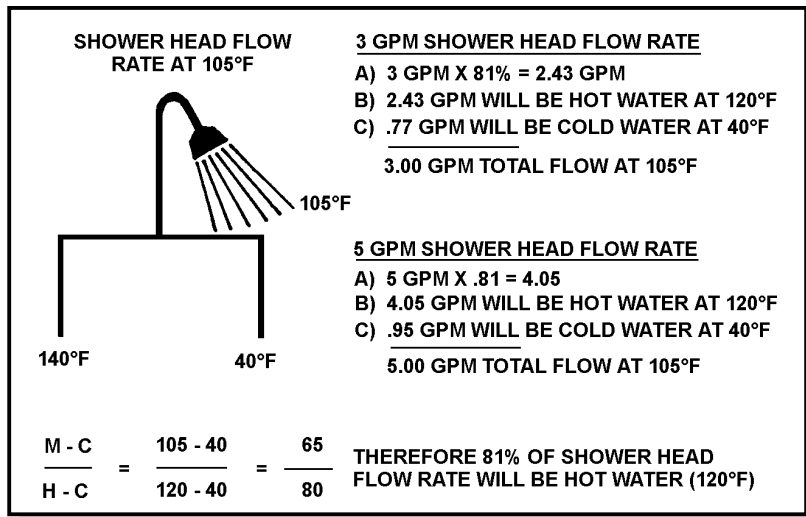


### What is Hot Water?

Hot water is water to which heat energy has been added . . . as more heat is added the water becomes hotter. This water temperature guide shows typical water heating system design temperatures.

In practice, the system designer will establish the temperature or temperatures of hot water needed for the various activities through consultation with the user or their representative. It is also necessary for the system designer to know the coldest entering water temperature in order to determine temperature rise.





### Evaluating Water

The coldest water inlet temperature experienced during the year should be the base from which the maximum system temperature rise is established. Your water supplier can provide this information. Surface water sources such as lakes and rivers tend to fluctuate as the seasons change. Well water remains relatively constant in temperature year round. A water heating system supplied with varying incoming water temperatures will only provide adequate hot water if the lowest cold water temperature encountered is used in the temperature rise calculation.

Other characteristics of the water supply which should be determined and evaluated by the system designer include supply pressure, water hardness and the presence of silt. These facts may be obtained by contacting your water supplier.

High water supply pressure (above the rated working pressure of the heater) should be reduced by a water pressure reducing valve set to about 50 psig. This will also reduce water consumption but, more important, will bring the water pressure well within the working pressure range of the heater. It is then possible to provide proper relief valve protection on the heater.

It is also necessary to provide water pressure reducing valves on the 180°F rinse lines of dishwashers.

Hardness is the term applied to the compounds of calcium and magnesium present in hard water. So common are these two minerals in water that practically no supply can be found that does not contain at least 1 or 2 grains per gallon. Hardness is also stated in parts per million. One grain of hardness is equal to 17.1 parts per million. Water containing less than 1 grain per gallon of dissolved calcium and magnesium hardness minerals is considered soft water.

The significance of hardness is that the heat transfer surfaces of the water heater will become coated or blocked with the mineral deposits. Depending upon the type of heater, less hot water, noisy operation, increased energy costs and premature equipment failure are some of the problems which may result from "hard" water. The system designer should select water heating equipment which is capable of being delimed or repaired when used in hard water areas.

If the water supply contains silt or sediment, the water heating equipment should be capable of being flushed (and have sediment risers installed in horizontal storage tanks) to extend heater life and minimize energy expense.

The effects of hard water and silt upon the heating equipment can be minimized by lowering water temperature, controlling flow, leakage and waste. For example, fixture and shower head flow controls are a must to minimize hot water consumption and regulate the flow to system design.

Energy saving fixtures benefit the user by reducing water and sewerage charges, energy and maintenance costs. Reducing consumption through flow control is the one way initial cost, operating costs and the space to be occupied by a new water heating system can be dramatically reduced.



# RESIDENTIAL SIZING

## INTRODUCTION

A. O. Smith residential water heaters are produced in a large variety of tank sizes and heat inputs to permit the selection of the one best suited to do the job. Ideally this heater would have a combination of storage and heat input equal to the usage.

In addition to the design factors and the sizing examples which follow, a glossary section provides detailed explanations of selected terminology. This is done to avoid expanding the content of the sizing procedure.

$$\text{STORAGE} + \text{HEAT INPUT} = \frac{\text{WATER AVAILABLE TO MEET USAGE}}{\text{WATER AVAILABLE TO MEET USAGE}}$$

## DESIGN FACTORS

These design factors are the result of combining A.O. Smith engineering test data and practical experience to form a usable guide for the selection of minimum water heater tank sizes and heat inputs. As stated previously, the factors may be adjusted to suit individual needs.

### 1. Two hour peak usage period.

Residential peak usage, based on accepted practice, is the two hour period during the day when the heaviest draw of hot water will occur.

For example, from 7:00 to 9:00 A.M.

### 2. Gallons of 140°F hot water required:

- 20 gallons per person for the first two persons.
- 5 gallons per person for each person over the first two.
- 10 gallons for each full bath over the first bath.
- 10 gallons for an automatic dishwasher.
- 20 gallons for an automatic clothes washer.

### 3. Storage tank size selection:

NOTE: The draw efficiency of a gas or electric water storage tank is considered to be 70%.

- 30 gallon size (21 gallon draw) for one bath residence.
- 40 gallon size (28 gallon draw) for two bath residence -or- one bath with an automatic clothes washer.
- 50 gallon size (35 gallon draw) for three bath residence -or- two baths with an automatic clothes washer.
- When a whirlpool tub is part of the home equipment, it is suggested that the heater storage tank capacity, or the sum total of an additional auxiliary storage tank and heater, be sized in accordance with the following table. This method of tank sizing, will in most cases, cancel all previous statements as noted above concerning tank sizing.

### 4. Heat input VS recovery capacity.

Gas water heater recovery table (calculated at 75% recovery efficiency).

#### GALLONS

| Tub Capacity To Overflow Outlet             | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 | 150 |
|---|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (@ 140°F Water) Min. Stored Water Capacity  | 65 | 71 | 80  | 89  | 98  | 108 | 117 | 125 |
| (@ 160°F Water*) Min. Stored Water Capacity | 54 | 59 | 66  | 74  | 82  | 90  | 97  | 104 |

\* A mixing valve is recommended to be installed in heater or auxiliary tank hot water outlet piping.

Based on a tub water temperature of 105°F.

**Gas Water Heater Recovery Table  
(Calculated at 75% Recovery Efficiency)**

| Input Rating<br>Btuh | GPH Recovery At Indicated Temperature Rise |       |       |       |      |
|----------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
|                      | 60°  | 70°   | 80°   | 90°   | 100° |
| 30,000               | 45.5                                       | 39.0  | 34.1  | 30.3  | 27.3 |
| 33,000               | 50.0                                       | 42.9  | 37.5  | 33.3  | 30.0 |
| 35,000               | 53.0                                       | 45.5  | 39.8  | 35.4  | 31.8 |
| 40,000               | 60.6                                       | 51.9  | 45.5  | 40.4  | 36.4 |
| 43,000               | 65.2                                       | 55.8  | 48.9  | 43.4  | 39.1 |
| 50,000               | 75.8                                       | 64.9  | 56.8  | 50.5  | 45.5 |
| 60,000               | 90.9                                       | 77.9  | 68.2  | 60.6  | 54.5 |
| 70,000               | 106.1                                      | 90.9  | 79.5  | 70.7  | 63.6 |
| 80,000               | 121.2                                      | 103.9 | 90.9  | 80.8  | 72.7 |
| 90,000               | 136.4                                      | 116.9 | 102.3 | 90.9  | 81.8 |
| 100,000              | 151.51                                     | 129.9 | 113.6 | 101.0 | 90.9 |

Notes on element operation:

- (a) Two element water heaters, simultaneous element operation; figure the upper element recovery at 1/3\* the GPH shown for wattage, figure lower element at the GPH shown.
- \* The bottom element contributes to the heat at the top of the tank. This tends to shut off the top element. Metered tests indicate the upper element operates about 1/3 of the time.
- (b) Two element water heaters, non-simultaneous (interlocking) element operation; figure the largest wattage element recovery only – at the GPH shown.
- (c) Single element water heaters; figure the recovery at the GPH shown.

**5. Storage VS input.**

Water heater selection is best made on the basis of hot water usage. However, calculations may lead to a combination of tank size and heat input which doesn't exist. In this case, the tank size and/or heat input must be balanced to achieve the desired result.

Therefore, it is necessary to understand that heat input provides hot water, at the hourly recovery rate, hour after hour. The storage tank represents instant hot water at greater-than-heater recovery.

The supply of hot water in the storage tank cannot be replenished until the peak usage period has ended and heater recovery is available for this purpose.

Having enough storage tank capacity is important when large quantities of hot water are required in a short period of time. If the peak usage period is for an extended period of time (more than two hours), the heater recovery capacity assumes major importance.

**Electric Water Heater Recovery Table  
(Calculated at 100% Recovery Efficiency)**

| Heating Element<br>Wattage | GPH Recovery At Indicated Temperature Rise |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|
|                            | 60°  | 70°  | 80°  | 90°  | 100° |
| 750                        | 5.1  | 4.4  | 3.8  | 3.4  | 3.1  |
| 1000                       | 6.8  | 5.8  | 5.1  | 4.6  | 4.1  |
| 1250                       | 8.5  | 7.3  | 6.4  | 5.7  | 5.1  |
| 1500                       | 10.2                                       | 8.8  | 7.7  | 6.8  | 6.1  |
| 2000                       | 13.7                                       | 11.7 | 10.2 | 9.1  | 8.2  |
| 2250                       | 15.4                                       | 13.2 | 11.5 | 10.2 | 9.2  |
| 2500                       | 17.1                                       | 14.6 | 12.8 | 11.4 | 10.2 |
| 3000                       | 20.5                                       | 17.5 | 15.4 | 13.6 | 12.3 |
| 3500                       | 23.9                                       | 20.5 | 17.9 | 15.9 | 14.3 |
| 4000                       | 27.3                                       | 23.4 | 20.5 | 18.2 | 16.4 |
| 4500                       | 30.7                                       | 26.3 | 23.0 | 20.5 | 18.4 |
| 5000                       | 34.1                                       | 29.2 | 25.6 | 22.7 | 20.5 |
| 5500                       | 37.6                                       | 32.2 | 28.2 | 25.0 | 22.5 |
| 6000                       | 41.0                                       | 35.1 | 30.7 | 27.3 | 24.6 |

**DESIGN EXAMPLES**

**GIVEN:** Family of four persons  
Two full baths  
Automatic dishwasher  
Automatic clothes washer

**HOT WATER REQUIRED:**

Two persons @ 20 gallons/perso ..... 40 gallons  
Two persons @ 5 gallons/person ..... 10 gallons  
Second full bath ..... 10 gallons  
Automatic dishwasher ..... 10 gallons  
Automatic clothes washer ..... 20 gallons  
Total two hour peak hot water usage ..... 90 gallons

\*This means 45 gallons of hot water per hour, for two hours, must be provided by the A. O. Smith water heater through storage and heat input.



### Storage Tank Size:

According to design factor 3, the storage tank size is 50 gallons.

The draw efficiency of the storage tank is considered to be 70%. Therefore, 35 gallons of "usable" hot water is available from the tank.

### Storage VS Input:

90 gallons two hour peak hot water usage  
-35 gallons of hot water from storage tank  
55 gallons of hot water to be produced by heat input during two hour peak.

This means 27.5 gallons of hot water per hour must be provided by heat input at the accepted temperature rise used in the locale.

### GAS WATER HEATER SELECTION

From the gas water heater recovery table it is found that, at 90° temperature rise, 27,225 Btuh will produce 27.5 GPH.

An A. O. Smith gas water heater with at least a 50 gallon storage tank and at least 27,225 Btuh input is required to meet the peak usage requirements. Consult A. O. Smith water heater specification sheets to determine model needed.

### ELECTRIC WATER HEATER SELECTION

NOTE: In the following example the fuel used is electricity instead of gas. This does not change the amount of hot water required by the family of four. It may mean a change in the ratio of

tank storage versus heat input to reflect the availability or amount of electricity which is obtainable during the peak usage period.

Two element, non-simultaneous operation:

Upper element – 4500 watts  
Lower element – 4500 watts

90 gallons two hour peak hot water usage  
-35 gallons of hot water from storage tank  
55 gallons of hot water to be produced by heat input during two hour peak.

Figure recovery of one element ... the one with largest wattage. In this example both elements are of same wattage.

20.5 GPH recovery x 2 hours = 41.0 gallons available from element recovery. This is less than the amount of recovery needed.

55.0 gallons of hot water needed from heat input (using 50 gallon storage tank)  
-41.0 from two hour recovery of (1) 4500 watt element  
\*11.0 gallons of hot water "short" two hour peak

It is necessary to increase the size of the storage tank and/or element wattages to satisfy the calculated peak usage. Check your local utility for maximum allowable wattage permitted for water heating. They may also have a minimum storage tank size requirement. Consult A. O. Smith water heater specification sheets to determine model needed.

\* To allow for draw efficiency, divide the "shortage" by .7 when increasing tank size.

**FOR GLOSSARY REFER TO FOLLOWING PAGE AOSSG88150**

## GLOSSARY

The following provides detailed explanations of selected terminology used in the sizing procedure. This is to promote a greater understanding of water heating terms, formula and theory.

- **BTU**...abbreviation for the British thermal unit, which is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

Stated another way, 8.25 Btu will raise the temperature of one gallon of water one degree.

A Btu may be sensed and visualized as about the amount of heat produced by burning one wooden match. One watt-hour of electricity produces 3.413 Btu.

This is the formula for determining the Btu required to heat a given quantity of water a certain number of degrees:

$$\text{Gallons} \times 8.25 \times 1.0 \times \text{temp. rise} = \text{Btu}$$

Where..gallons = Total gallons of hot water required

8.25 = Weight of one gallon of water

1.0 = Specific heat of water (See Specific heat)

Temp. Rise = Difference in degrees between lowest incoming water temperature and desired hot water temperature.

Btu = **Gas water heaters**; divide answer by .75 (recovery efficiency) to obtain equivalent gas input in Btu.

**Electric water heaters**; multiply by 0.293 to obtain element wattage equivalent.

In actual practice a combination of storage and input is used to assure the availability of hot water.

- **Draw efficiency** is considered to be 70% in this report. When using storage type heaters it is common practice to assume 70% of the storage capacity of the heater tank may be drawn before dilution by incoming cold water lowers the hot water temperature below an acceptable level under normal draw conditions. For example, a 40 gallon storage tank would deliver about 28 gallons of usable hot water.
- **Input rating**...The amount of fuel in British thermal units (Btu) consumed by a gas or oil water heater in an hour. In an electric water heater input is usually expressed in watts or kilowatts. Consuming one watt-hour of electricity produces 3.413 Btu.
- **Interlocking**...(See **Non-Simultaneous**)
- **Non-Simultaneous (Interlocking)** element operation is where both of the heating elements in an electric water heater are not permitted to operate at the same time. The electrical circuit is interlocked through the upper thermostat to prevent simultaneous operation.

- **Recovery (capacity)**, the amount of water in gallons per hour, raised at a given recovery efficiency and Btu/h input. Refer to Recovery Table.

This is the formula for determining recovery capacity:

$$\text{Input} \times \text{efficiency} = \text{Recovery in GPH (See Btu)}$$
$$8.25 \times \text{temp. rise}$$

$$\text{Efficiency} = \begin{array}{l} .75 \text{ for gas-fired water heaters} \\ 1.0 \text{ for electric water heaters} \end{array}$$

(also see **Recovery efficiency**)

- **Recovery efficiency**...The ratio of the heat in the water delivered at the heater outlet to the heat input of the heating unit. Also see **Btu**.

Gas-fired residential water heaters are generally considered to have a 75% recovery efficiency. This means 75% of the total heat produced by the burner is absorbed into the water in the tank. The remaining 25% of the heat is used to move the products of combustion through the flue to the outdoors.

Electric residential water heaters are generally considered to have a 100% recovery efficiency. This is because immersion style elements place all the heat into the water and there is no flue.

- **Simultaneous** element operation is where both of the heating elements in an electric water heater are permitted to operate at the same time if necessary. The actual operation of each element is individually controlled by its own thermostat.
- **Specific heat**, the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a given weight of a substance one degree as compared with the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of the same weight of water 1° at some specified temperature.
- **Storage tank**, used for storing hot water in advance of needs. Properly sized, the tank permits large volumes of hot water to be drawn from the system at flow rates exceeding the recovery capacity of the heater. Also see **Draw efficiency**.
- **Temperature rise**, the amount of temperature difference (between incoming and outgoing water) in degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Draw efficiency**, the amount of water that can be drawn from a storage tank, at a 3 gpm flow rate, before the temperature drops 30°F. Heater outlet water temperatures below 110°F is generally not considered as satisfactory or usable.



A.O. SMITH  
500 Tennessee Waltz Parkway  
Ashland City, Tn 37015  
www.hotwater.com  
1.800.527.1953

## II. Principles of Sizing

### Hot Water Demand

The major determination in sizing and the basis of all computations is establishing the probable demand for hot water. In addition, any unusual conditions which might relate to hot water consumption must also be recognized and planned for. Unusual conditions will be described under Profiles of Operation.

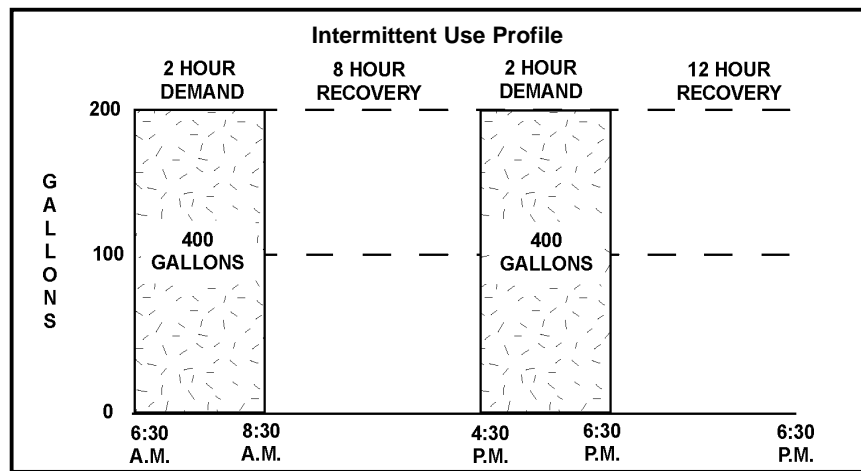
Sources of hot water demand information include the ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers) Guide, and hot water using equipment manufacturers such as dishwasher and washing machine makers. Government agencies may also require demand criteria be met.

### Profiles of Operation

The system designer should draw a profile of the proposed system hot water usage demand period. The profile will also include the recovery period available before the next demand. Demand and recovery periods can be measured in seconds, minutes or hours.

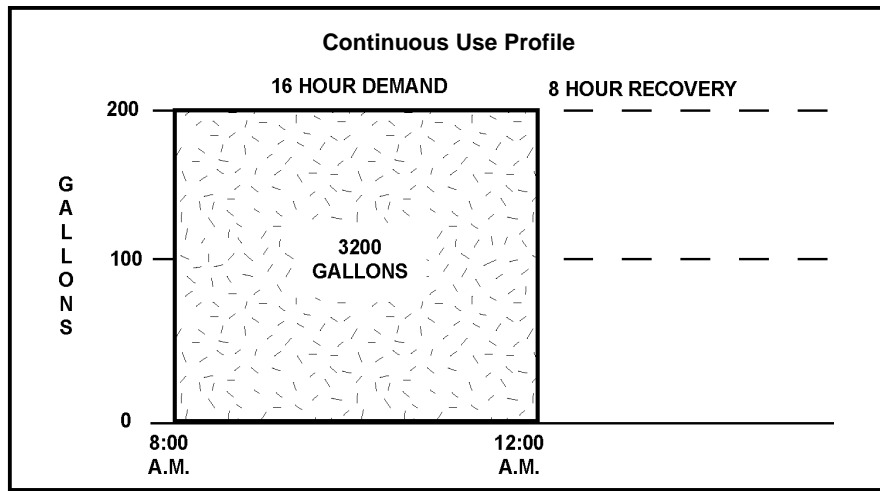
Any unusual needs for hot water during the demand or recovery periods are identified in order to provide additional tank and/or recovery capacity. An unusual need could be a lesser, but significant hot water requirement appearing just after the demand period. For example, a motel could have a laundry operation which begins in mid-morning, after the guest shower load is over. If not taken into consideration there may be no hot water available for the washing machines.

An oversimplification of system design is to say that systems are either for intermittent use or continuous use as shown in the following profiles.



This example shows two demand and recovery periods within a day.

- A combination of heater recovery and hot water storage capacity should be selected to handle the demands.
- The demands are separated by an 8 and a 12 hour recovery period.
- The heater recovery capacity of the shortest recovery period must be sufficient to heat all the water in storage.
- Short demands usually mean placing emphasis on tank size. Heater recovery capacity is emphasized on longer demands.
- The dividing line between long and short demands is about 3 to 4 hours.
- In this example storage is most important.
  - The purpose of the storage tank is to permit relatively low heater recovery capacity while still maintaining adequate hot water supply during the demand period.



- This example could represent an industrial process which is operated for two continuous shifts a day.
- Hot water is used at a maximum rate of 3.3 gpm or 198 gph. (It is important to establish maximum flow rate and water temperature rise in order to select a heater model.)
- In this example heater recovery is most important as the system for all practical purposes is an instantaneous one. That is, it heats the water at the rate it is being used.
- If a tank type water heater is used, the tank size is minimum . . . just large enough to put the heat into the water.

### III. Equipment Performance

#### Recovery Capacity Tables

Recovery capacity tables are the published results of laboratory tests which establish the ability of a heater to raise the temperature of a given volume of water a certain number of degrees within a given time period.

Recovery tables are prepared for all State commercial water heaters regardless of the type fuel used. In each instance the thermal efficiency of the particular type heater has been taken into consideration.

The tables shown here are representative for the types of heaters produced by State using a variety of fuels. In this publication, for electricity, recovery at 1 kW for various temperature rises is shown. The table can then be used without regard to model number as all electric heaters are considered 100% thermal efficient.

Recovery Capacity  
Calculated at  
Thermal Efficiency of  
@ 94%

**Recovery Capacities Gas Tank Type**

| Model       | Approx. Gal. Cap. | Input Rating Btu/Hour Nat. & Prop. | Temperature Rise - Degrees F - Gallons Per Hour |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|             |                   |                                    | 30  | 40  | 50  | 60  | 70  | 80  | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 |
| SUF 100-150 | 100               | 150,000                            | 570   | 427 | 342 | 285 | 244 | 214 | 190 | 171 | 155 | 142 | 131 | 122 |

@ 100%

**Recovery Capacities Electric Tank Type**

| Kilowatts* (kW) | Btu Produce | Temperature Rise - Degrees F - Gallons Per Hour |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-------------|---|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                 |             | 30  | 40   | 50  | 60  | 70  | 80  | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 |
| 1.0             | 3,413       | 13.6  | 10.3 | 8.1 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.0 |

\*1 KW = 1000 Watts

When used at altitudes of 2000' or more above sea level, gas-fired heater recovery capacities must be derated 4% for each 1000' above sea level in order to reflect actual recovery.

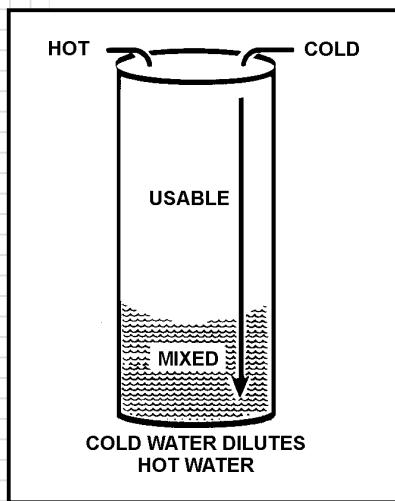
Recovery Capacity means hot water at the heater recovery rate minute after minute, hour after hour. If the hot water demand period is more than 3 or 4 hours, recovery capacity usually becomes more important than storage capacity.

Heater recovery capacity plus usable storage capacity must be sufficient to supply the amount of hot water consumed during the peak demand period.

**⚠ CAUTION:** Many tables refer only to gallons per hour recovery. Be certain that the heater will also meet your gallons per minute requirements.

### Storage Capacity and Tank Efficiency

The heater tank provides a source of instant hot water, over and above the heater recovery rate. However, the supply of hot water in the tank cannot be replenished until the recovery capacity of the heater exceeds the demand upon the system. This is usually after the peak hot water demand period has ended.



Tank size is usually more important than recovery capacity when large quantities of hot water are required in a short period of time . . . less than 3 or 4 hours.

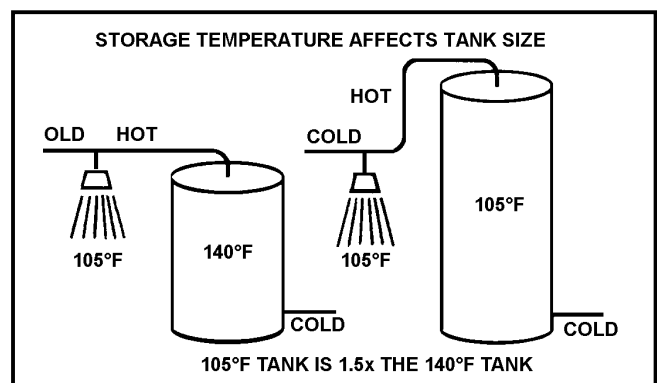
All of the stored hot water is not available from the tank at the desired system temperature. This is because hot water is pushed from the system by entering cold water, resulting in temperature dilution of the water in storage.

The term usable storage is employed to indicate the quantity of water which must be available from the tank before dilution reduces temperature to an unusable level. Therefore, tank size should be increased by a percentage to cover the expected loss of hot water temperature so enough usable water will be available.

When a specific drop off characteristic for a system is unknown or tank efficiency is not given, 70% availability within a 30° F temperature drop during the demand period may be applied to the tank of a heater or system. For systems requiring precise delivered temperatures, figure 60% availability from the tank.

Obviously the actual availability and temperature drop of any system will depend upon the hot water demand flow rate and piping concept.

The potential for hot water temperature drop during the demand period must be kept in mind by the system designer when establishing the tank temperature. For example, while the hot water temperature guide, page 3, lists showers at 105°F, the system temperature is actually set for 140°F. A mixing valve would limit hot water temperature supplied to person use fixtures to 120°F. In this way the ability to handle a 30°F drop during the demand period is built into a design. The water temperature at the end of the demand would still be above that required by the use . . . about 110°F. Were the system temperature designed to 105°F, the tank size would have to be about half again as large because there would be no “extra” heat in the water to “stretch” the tank contents. The water temperature would also drop below that required by the use. So heating water above the needed temperature in systems employing tanks is common as it reduces tank size through the added heat energy available in the stored water.



State commercial tank type water heaters, hot water storage tanks and water heating systems using tanks have assigned tank efficiencies as follows:

### Gas and Oil-Fired Tank Type Heaters

- Use 70% tank draw efficiency for all one and two temperature applications. For example, a gas fired Ultra Force® SUF100-150 model has an 100 gallon tank:
- $100 \times .70 = 70.0$  usable gallons of hot water available within 30°F temperature drop during the demand period.
- Conversely, if 70.0 gallons of usable hot water were needed from the tank over the demand period, the minimum purchased tank size would be:

$$70.0 \div .7 = 100 \text{ gallons}$$

**Note:** Storing water below 140°F may require more storage capacity.

- If the input of the heater is satisfactory for recovery purposes but the tank size is not, an auxiliary hot water storage tank may be piped into the system to increase the amount of available hot water during the demand period. State instruction manuals show the details.

### Electric Tank Type Heaters

- Use 70% tank draw efficiency for all two temperature applications. For example, a model CSB - 52 has a 52 gallon tank:

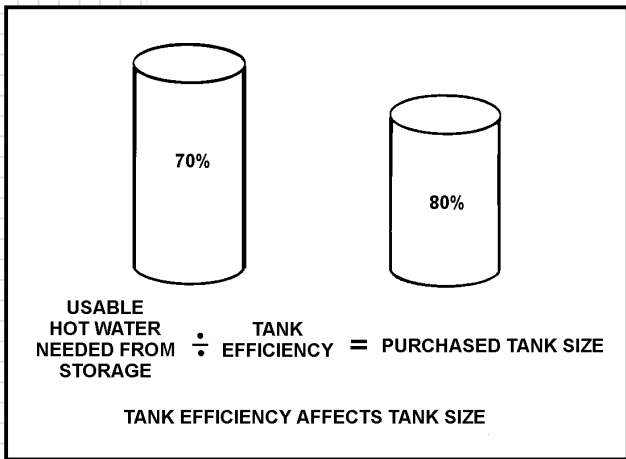
- $52 \times .70 = 36.4$  usable gallons of hot water available within 30°F temperature drop during the demand period.

- Conversely, if 36.4 gallons of usable hot water were needed from the tank over the demand period, the minimum purchased tank size would be:

$$36.4 \div .7 = 52 \text{ gallons}$$

- Use 80% tank draw efficiency for one temperature systems in the same manner as described for two temperature.

- As in the example of gas and oil-fired tank type heaters, and auxiliary tank can be used to supplement the heater capacity if necessary. However, it should be noted that State commercial electric water heaters are available in tank sizes to 120 gallons. Booster size heaters may also be connected to auxiliary tanks of any size. This would permit fuel conversion at a later date by heater substitution.



### Auxiliary Tank (Unfired)

- As explained previously, auxiliary tanks are used to increase the hot water storage potential of gas and oil-fired an electric tank type heaters. Also, auxiliary tanks are used with gas copper heat exchanger type heaters in applications requiring stored hot water.
- Use 70% tank draw efficiency for all two temperature applications.
- Use 80% tank draw efficiency for all one temperature applications piped according to State instruction manuals.

### Heater Recovery Plus Storage Tank Equals Demand

As previously explained, select maximum recovery and minimum storage if the hot water demand period is longer than 3 or 4 hours. Storage must be sufficient to handle any peaks within the demand period.

Select minimum recovery and maximum storage if the hot water demand period is less than 3 or 4 hours. Heater recovery must be sufficient to reheat the entire tank contents before the next demand period.

**To summarize:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>“Short” Demand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. recovery</li> <li>• Max. storage</li> </ul> | <p>“Long” Demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. recovery</li> <li>• Min. storage</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

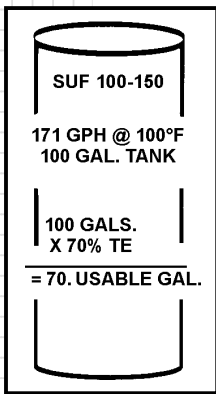
Check for the possibility of any hot water needs occurring during the recovery period which could affect the reheating of the system. Add heater recovery and/or storage tank capacity as necessary to handle unusual conditions.

Equipment sizing calculations may lead to a combination of heater recovery and storage tank which is not made. If so, both factors may be “adjusted” to favor one or the other as desired. Here’s how:

1. Where it is important that hot water temperature be maintained (as opposed to “within a 30°F drop” being o.k.) increase recovery capacity in preference to increasing tank size. This will aid in maintaining system temperature. Also, assume 10% less draw efficiency than if the 30°F drop was acceptable.
2. Where it is important to maintain water volume (for demands possibly in excess of heater recovery) increase tank size in order to provide “instant” hot water.

**Heater Recovery and Storage Tank Performance Comparison**

These examples demonstrate the roles that heater recovery and storage tank capacity play over a demand period. For example, a Model SUF 100 -150 which has an 100 gallon tank, when used for a one or an eight hour demand provides:



**One hour demand period**

171 gph recovery  
+ 70 gal storage  
241 gal/1 hour

Storage:  
100 gallon tank  
x 70% tank efficiency

Storage provides 30% of demand

= 70.0 usable gallons

Here’s how it’s figured:

171 gph recovery + 70.0 gallons storage = 241 gallons of hot water available for one hour.

Thereafter, until the tank is reheated, only the heater recovery of 171 gph is available, The heater tank obviously provides a good portion of the hot water in a short, intermittent demand period. Without any use of hot water during the recovery period the tank contents should be reheated within about 25 minutes ( $20 \div 171 = .41$ )

**Eight hour demand period, per hour capacity.**

171 gph recovery  
+ 8 gal storage  
179 gal/8 hour  
Recovery provides 96% of demand.

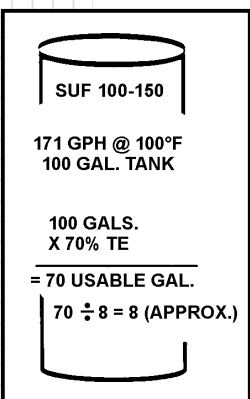
Storage:  
100 gallon tank  
x 70% tank efficiency  
= 70 usable gallons over 8 hours

$70.0 - 8 = 7.8$  or 8 usable gallons per hour

Here’s how it’s figured:

171 gph recovery + 8 gallons storage per hour = 179 gallons of hot water available per hour for 8 hours.

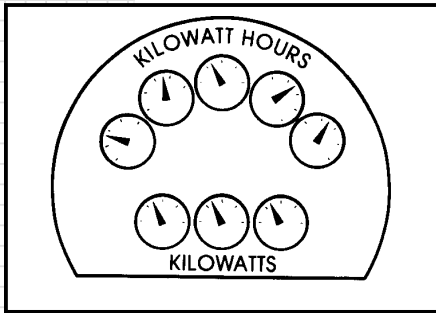
Thereafter, until the tank is reheated, only the heater recovery of 171 gph is available. The heater recovery obviously provides the hot water in a long, continuous demand period. Without any use of hot water during the recovery period the tank contents should be reheated within about 25 minutes ( $70.0 \div 171 = .41$  hour).



## When Using Electricity To Heat Water

The system designer may want to modify the preceding heater recovery and storage tank capacity information when using electricity to heat water.

This is because electricity for commercial use, including water heating, is often sold on a demand rate basis. This means, in addition to the energy charge (measured in kWh), there is a charge for the demand (measured in kW) that a customer imposes upon the electrical service. Your power company will provide and explain rate information upon request.



**kWh= ENERGY USED**  
(HEATS WATER, COSTS PENNIES)

**kW= DEMAND**  
(DOESN'T HEAT WATER, COSTS DOLLARS)

The presence of a demand rate means the system designer should minimize recovery (heater kW rating) and maximize storage capacity (heater tank size.) Demand charges can greatly increase the cost of using electricity to heat water.

Another approach to minimize electric demand is to provide enough hot water storage to allow the elements to be turned off during periods of peak electrical usage. This may be done with a locally obtained time clock or through demand limiting equipment supplied by State or others in the energy control business. Working with the customer, power company, heater supplier and electrician can often result in significant power cost savings by providing control over the electrical demand.

## Estimating Water Heating Costs

Occasionally the system designer may want to project energy expense and make fuel cost comparisons as a part of the system design project.

If so, use this formula and the example as a guide.

$$\text{Cost} = \frac{(\text{Gallons per time period}) \times (8.25) \times (\text{temp. rise}) \times (\text{cost of fuel per sale unit})}{(\text{Btu content of fuel per sale unit}) \times (\text{Heater efficiency})}$$

Cost example of heating 50 gallons of water with electricity:

$$\text{Cost} = \frac{(50) \times (8.25) \times (100) \times (.08)}{(3413) \times (1)}$$

Notes:

$$\text{Cost} = \frac{2062.5}{3413}$$

8.25 - Weight of gallon of water

8.00¢ per kwh assumed

Cost = 96 cents based on 100% efficiency, plus demand and fuel adjustment charges if applicable.

1 kW = 3413 Btu/h

Efficiency = 1 (100%)



## IV. System Types and Application

### Design Objective

The objectives in the design of commercial water heating systems are numerous and varied. The major considerations which the system designer should include in the planning stages are:

1. The heater and related system components and their installation must comply with all applicable codes and requirements.
  - ASME construction and NSF (National Sanitation Foundation) labelling are two examples of requirements which may have to be met.
2. Water heating system performance must promote the health, welfare and safety of the public.
  - Often times exact water temperatures over a long period of time are required in order to provide sanitation. This quality must be built into the system in the design stages.
3. Efficiently utilize energy to achieve the least possible operating costs.
  - Electricity is an example of a fuel which must be applied thoughtfully to avoid unnecessary demand charges.
4. Provide the quality and features needed to attain the desired results at least cost.
  - Least cost means not only initial cost but operating costs as well. Often times higher initial cost can be offset by lower operating costs achieved by using State energy-saving water heater models.

### System Types

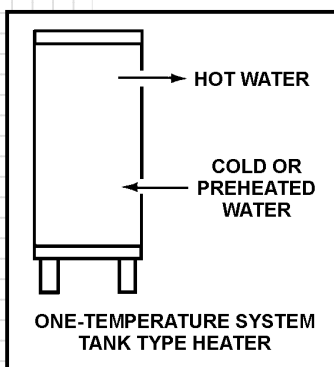
Water heating systems may be divided into two basic types. The types depicted in State instruction manuals are either one temperature or two temperature systems. Of course the customer, through fixture adjustment, may obtain a variety of temperatures to serve their needs.

- One Temperature systems produce only one temperature of hot water to satisfy the demand.
- Two Temperature systems produce two temperatures of hot water and are usually associated with food service functions. The higher temperature water is used for dishwasher sanitizing rinse. Two temperatures may be produced by a single water heater with a mixing valve or by two water heaters set at two different temperatures.

Within each division are numerous system names which should be understood and used by the system designer. It is important to correctly identify a system so the plumber and electrician will follow the proper instructions and diagrams. The following describes the system nomenclature used by State as it applies to the various types of heaters and fuels in use.

### Tank Type Water Heater Systems Using Gas, Oil And Electricity.

#### One Temperature



1. One Temperature and Booster are the names of one temperature water heating system.
  - One Temperature implies that the one temperature hot water produced in the heater is for general purpose use.
  - Traditionally, a Booster system receives hot water (usually at 140°F) and raises it to 180°F for use in the dishwasher final rinse. The Booster is therefore a one temperature water heating system. The tank type heater is the proper choice for a Booster system serving a stationary rack type dishwasher because of their intermittent use of 180°F final rinse water. A combination of heater recovery and storage tank capacity is the rule for a stationary rack type dishwasher.
  - One-temperature  
Booster.

2. Two Temperature provides two temperature hot water service by means of a water mixing valve or through a pre-heater/booster heater combination. In the first concept the heater storage tank is maintained at the highest system temperature required (usually at 180°F) and the mixing valve externally produces the 140°F hot water requirement.

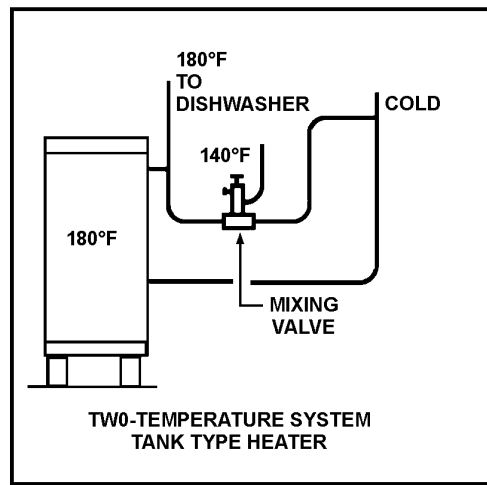
The 180°F water in the tank is therefore piped to the water mixing valve for tempering and also sent directly to the dishwasher final rinse.

The pre-heater/booster heater combination provides two temperatures of hot water without the use of a mixing valve. One heater is operated at 140°F to provide general purpose hot water and provide a source of pre-heated water for the booster heater. The booster heater raises the 140°F water to 180°F for the dishwasher final rinse.

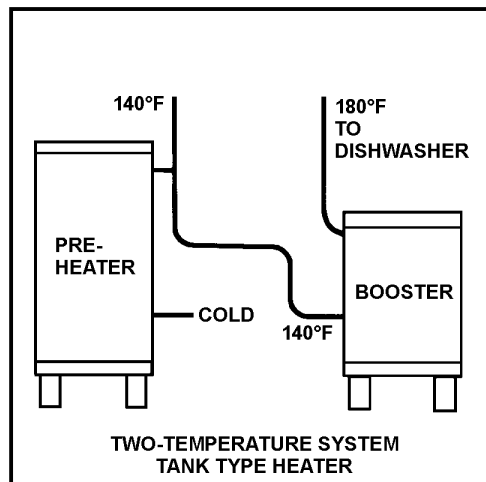
**CAUTION**

STORING WATER AT HIGHER THAN NECESSARY TEMPERATURES RESULTS IN MORE RAPID LIME BUILD UP, MORE CORROSIVE WATER, AND INCREASES THE POSSIBILITY OF CAUSING INJURY TO ANYONE COMING INTO CONTACT WITH THE HOT WATER.

**Two-temperature (with mixing valve)**



**Pre-heater/booster heater**



## Creating the Successful System

Creating the successful commercial water heating system is a joint venture involving many persons and skills.

In order to select the right system using either tank type or copper type heaters, one should understand the role that each of the persons concerned with the installation plays.

The following chart summarizes the responsibilities for each of the roles.

Remember, your customer's success or profit may depend upon the continued availability of hot water . . . and you will achieve that goal through proper system selection and sizing.

| IDENTITY   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|--|
| Customer   | Must define his needs  |
| System designer*                                 | Designs a water heating system to satisfy the customer's needs. Acts as an interface between all involved parties.   |
| Water Heater Supplier and/or Manufacturer        | Furnishes the equipment to meet the system specifications. May aid the designer in equipment selection or specifications with his knowledge of product performance and availability. |
| Plumbing and Electrical Installation Contractors | Must understand system concept to provide installation, startup and customer instruction. Also provide maintenance and service for continued satisfaction.                           |
| Energy Supplier                                  | Advises characteristics of energy available at job site and how to achieve best use. Particularly important when electricity is the fuel.  |
| Water Supplier                                   | Advises characteristics of water, lowest temperature, maximum pressure and hardness. May influence heater selection and use of a pressure reducing valve.                            |

\*The system designer may be the architect, engineer, installing contractor or water heater supplier.

## Sizing Without Prepared Information

The following procedures will establish heater recovery and storage tank capacities for intermittent use systems.

Continuous use systems are sized so that heater recovery equals or exceeds demand. Therefore the size of the tank (when proposing a tank type heater system) is unimportant.

The procedures for one and two temperature systems are essentially the same:

1. Establish the hourly 1 / hot water demand in gallons and the maximum temperature rise.

2. Select a trial size heater  $\underline{2}$  / .
3. Subtract the hourly heater recovery from the demand.
4. The difference in gallons between demand and recovery must come from the tank.
5. Multiply the difference by the number of demand hours. The result is the “usable” number of gallons which must come from the tank.
6. Divide the “usable” tank gallons by .7 or .8 to obtain minimum tank size needed, see pages 7 thru 10.
7. Compare minimum calculated tank size with that of the “trial size” heater. If the heater tank is equal to or greater than calculated tank size the selection is satisfactory. If not, adjust recovery and storage as necessary, see page 10.
8. Divide the heater tank size by the heater recovery to be certain the tank will be recovered by the time of the next demand. If not, adjust recovery and storage as necessary, see page 10.

1\* / The demand could be in minutes or seconds. In either case all references to hours in the procedure would revert to minutes or seconds. For example, a stationary rack type dishwasher may have a 12 second demand period and an 83 second recovery period.

2\* / Review PROFILES OF OPERATION, Page 5, as an aid in determining whether to favor recovery or tank capacity in the selection of a “trial size” heater. Normally the hourly heater recovery of the heater selected should not exceed the hourly demand. In this way the hot water content of the tank will be put to use.

#### **One temperature example**

1. A two hour demand of 206 gph of 140°F water has been established. The lowest incoming water temperature is 40°F. The shortest time in any day in which the demand will be repeated is 8 hours.
2. A State gas-fired tank type commercial water heater will be selected for the job. (Any fuel or type of heater could be substituted in this example.)

“Try” a Model SUF 100 -150. This heater has 171 gallons per hour recovery at 100°F water temperature rise and an 100 gallon tank.

- |    |                |  |
|----|----------------|--|
| 3. | Needed:        | 206 gph for 2 hours                          |
|    | Subtract:      | - 171 gph heater recovery at 100°F rise      |
|    | Equals:        | 35 gallons needed from tank, first hour      |
|    | Multiplied by: | <u>  2  </u> demand hours                    |
|    | Equals:        | 70 usable gallons needed from tank           |
|    | Divide:        | 70 ÷ .7 = 100. gallons minimum tank size     |
|    | Capacity       | 100 gallon tank vs. 100. gallon tank minimum |

Compare tank size vs. recovery:

Used 70 gallon. 8 hours is available to recover tank.

$(70 - 171 \text{ gph recovery} = .41, .41 \times 60 \text{ minutes} = 24.6 \text{ minutes needed to recover 70 gallons.}$

Conclusion: The Model SUF 100 -150 will do the job and should be the heater selected.

**⚠ CAUTION:** A two hour demand of 206 gph means that the 206 gph is spread throughout the entire hour. It does not mean that 206 gallons is dumped in 15 minutes and no additional hot is used in the remaining 45 minutes.

### Two temperature example

1. A one hour demand of 75 gallons of 180°F water and 110 gallons of 140°F water has been established. The lowest incoming water temperature is 40°F. The shortest time in any day in which the demand will be repeated is 3 hours.
2. Convert the 180° water requirement into the equivalent of a 140°F water requirement to avoid working with two different temperature rises.

Converting to a single temperature rise:

- Multiply the 180°F requirement by 1.4 in 100°F temperature rise applications.
  - a) This means 1.4 more water can be raised from 40°F to 140°F than 40°F to 180°F with the same amount of energy.

b) Multiplier formula:

$$\frac{\text{Hot - Cold}}{\text{Mixed - Cold}} = \text{multiplier}$$

Example:

$$\frac{180 - 40}{140 - 40} = \frac{140}{100} = 1.4$$

- c) 
$$\begin{array}{r} 75 \text{ gallons } 180^{\circ}\text{F water required} \\ \times 1.4 \\ \hline 105 \text{ equivalent gallons of } 140^{\circ}\text{F water} \end{array}$$

- Add the converted 180°F water requirement to the 140°F requirement and proceed with heater selection.

- a) 105 + 110 gallons of 140°F water = 215 equivalent gallons of hot water required at 100°F water temperature rise.

3. A State electric tank type commercial water heater will be selected for the job. (Any fuel or type of heater could be substituted in this example.)

Review SYSTEM TYPES AND APPLICATION beginning on page 11.

“Try” a CSB -120 with 24 kw input. This heater has 98 gallons per hour recovery at 100°F water temperature rise and a 119 gallon tank. The heater will be operated at 180°F and equipped with a water mixing valve set at 140°F.

4. Needed: 215 gallons for one hour  
Subtract: -98 gph heater recovery at 100°F rise  
Equals 117 usable gallons needed from tank

Compare tank capacity: 119 gallon tank vs. 117 gallon tank minimum

NOTE: The 119 gallon tank capacity at 70% tank efficiency is equal to 83 gallons of usable hot water. However, it is 83 gallons of 180°F water and therefore has the heat content equivalent of 83 x 1.4 = 116 gallons of 140°F water. Therefore the tank size is adequate (only 1 gallon short).

Compare tank size vs recovery: 1.21 hours vs 3 hours available.  
(119 ÷ 98 = 1.21 hour)

Conclusion: The model CSB -120 with 24 kw input will do the job and should be the heater selected.

### **Field Assistance**

Please contact your local State distributor, sales representative or the technical information center (See: [www.statewaterheaters.com](http://www.statewaterheaters.com) for phone and fax numbers) if you need help designing a water heating system or selecting the proper equipment for the job.



## RESIDENTIAL SIZING

### INTRODUCTION

A. O. Smith residential water heaters are produced in a large variety of tank sizes and heat inputs to permit the selection of the one best suited to do the job. Ideally this heater would have a combination of storage and heat input equal to the usage.

In addition to the design factors and the sizing examples which follow, a glossary section provides detailed explanations of selected terminology. This is done to avoid expanding the content of the sizing procedure.

$$\text{STORAGE} + \text{HEAT INPUT} = \frac{\text{WATER AVAILABLE TO MEET USAGE}}$$

### DESIGN FACTORS

These design factors are the result of combining A.O. Smith engineering test data and practical experience to form a usable guide for the selection of minimum water heater tank sizes and heat inputs. As stated previously, the factors may be adjusted to suit individual needs.

#### 1. Two hour peak usage period.

Residential peak usage, based on accepted practice, is the two hour period during the day when the heaviest draw of hot water will occur.

For example, from 7:00 to 9:00 A.M.

#### 2. Gallons of 140°F hot water required:

- 20 gallons per person for the first two persons.
- 5 gallons per person for each person over the first two.
- 10 gallons for each full bath over the first bath.
- 10 gallons for an automatic dishwasher.
- 20 gallons for an automatic clothes washer.

#### 3. Storage tank size selection:

NOTE: The draw efficiency of a gas or electric water storage tank is considered to be 70%.

- 30 gallon size (21 gallon draw) for one bath residence.
- 40 gallon size (28 gallon draw) for two bath residence -or- one bath with an automatic clothes washer.
- 50 gallon size (35 gallon draw) for three bath residence -or- two baths with an automatic clothes washer.
- When a whirlpool tub is part of the home equipment, it is suggested that the heater storage tank capacity, or the sum total of an additional auxiliary storage tank and heater, be sized in accordance with the following table. This method of tank sizing, will in most cases, cancel all previous statements as noted above concerning tank sizing.

#### 4. Heat input VS recovery capacity.

Gas water heater recovery table (calculated at 75% recovery efficiency).

#### GALLONS

| Tub Capacity To Overflow Outlet             | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 | 150 |
|---|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (@ 140°F Water) Min. Stored Water Capacity  | 65 | 71 | 80  | 89  | 98  | 108 | 117 | 125 |
| (@ 160°F Water*) Min. Stored Water Capacity | 54 | 59 | 66  | 74  | 82  | 90  | 97  | 104 |

\* A mixing valve is recommended to be installed in heater or auxiliary tank hot water outlet piping.

Based on a tub water temperature of 105°F.

**Gas Water Heater Recovery Table  
(Calculated at 75% Recovery Efficiency)**

| Input Rating<br>Btuh | GPH Recovery At Indicated Temperature Rise |       |       |       |      |
|----------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
|                      | 60°  | 70°   | 80°   | 90°   | 100° |
| 30,000               | 45.5                                       | 39.0  | 34.1  | 30.3  | 27.3 |
| 33,000               | 50.0                                       | 42.9  | 37.5  | 33.3  | 30.0 |
| 35,000               | 53.0                                       | 45.5  | 39.8  | 35.4  | 31.8 |
| 40,000               | 60.6                                       | 51.9  | 45.5  | 40.4  | 36.4 |
| 43,000               | 65.2                                       | 55.8  | 48.9  | 43.4  | 39.1 |
| 50,000               | 75.8                                       | 64.9  | 56.8  | 50.5  | 45.5 |
| 60,000               | 90.9                                       | 77.9  | 68.2  | 60.6  | 54.5 |
| 70,000               | 106.1                                      | 90.9  | 79.5  | 70.7  | 63.6 |
| 80,000               | 121.2                                      | 103.9 | 90.9  | 80.8  | 72.7 |
| 90,000               | 136.4                                      | 116.9 | 102.3 | 90.9  | 81.8 |
| 100,000              | 151.51                                     | 129.9 | 113.6 | 101.0 | 90.9 |

Notes on element operation:

- (a) Two element water heaters, simultaneous element operation; figure the upper element recovery at 1/3\* the GPH shown for wattage, figure lower element at the GPH shown.
- \* The bottom element contributes to the heat at the top of the tank. This tends to shut off the top element. Metered tests indicate the upper element operates about 1/3 of the time.
- (b) Two element water heaters, non-simultaneous (interlocking) element operation; figure the largest wattage element recovery only – at the GPH shown.
- (c) Single element water heaters; figure the recovery at the GPH shown.

**Electric Water Heater Recovery Table  
(Calculated at 100% Recovery Efficiency)**

| Heating Element<br>Wattage | GPH Recovery At Indicated Temperature Rise |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|
|                            | 60°  | 70°  | 80°  | 90°  | 100° |
| 750                        | 5.1  | 4.4  | 3.8  | 3.4  | 3.1  |
| 1000                       | 6.8  | 5.8  | 5.1  | 4.6  | 4.1  |
| 1250                       | 8.5  | 7.3  | 6.4  | 5.7  | 5.1  |
| 1500                       | 10.2                                       | 8.8  | 7.7  | 6.8  | 6.1  |
| 2000                       | 13.7                                       | 11.7 | 10.2 | 9.1  | 8.2  |
| 2250                       | 15.4                                       | 13.2 | 11.5 | 10.2 | 9.2  |
| 2500                       | 17.1                                       | 14.6 | 12.8 | 11.4 | 10.2 |
| 3000                       | 20.5                                       | 17.5 | 15.4 | 13.6 | 12.3 |
| 3500                       | 23.9                                       | 20.5 | 17.9 | 15.9 | 14.3 |
| 4000                       | 27.3                                       | 23.4 | 20.5 | 18.2 | 16.4 |
| 4500                       | 30.7                                       | 26.3 | 23.0 | 20.5 | 18.4 |
| 5000                       | 34.1                                       | 29.2 | 25.6 | 22.7 | 20.5 |
| 5500                       | 37.6                                       | 32.2 | 28.2 | 25.0 | 22.5 |
| 6000                       | 41.0                                       | 35.1 | 30.7 | 27.3 | 24.6 |

**5. Storage VS input.**

Water heater selection is best made on the basis of hot water usage. However, calculations may lead to a combination of tank size and heat input which doesn't exist. In this case, the tank size and/or heat input must be balanced to achieve the desired result.

Therefore, it is necessary to understand that heat input provides hot water, at the hourly recovery rate, hour after hour. The storage tank represents instant hot water at greater-than-heater recovery.

The supply of hot water in the storage tank cannot be replenished until the peak usage period has ended and heater recovery is available for this purpose.

Having enough storage tank capacity is important when large quantities of hot water are required in a short period of time. If the peak usage period is for an extended period of time (more than two hours), the heater recovery capacity assumes major importance.

**DESIGN EXAMPLES**

**GIVEN:** Family of four persons  
Two full baths  
Automatic dishwasher  
Automatic clothes washer

**HOT WATER REQUIRED:**

Two persons @ 20 gallons/perso ..... 40 gallons  
Two persons @ 5 gallons/person ..... 10 gallons  
Second full bath ..... 10 gallons  
Automatic dishwasher ..... 10 gallons  
Automatic clothes washer ..... 20 gallons  
Total two hour peak hot water usage ..... 90 gallons

\*This means 45 gallons of hot water per hour, for two hours, must be provided by the A. O. Smith water heater through storage and heat input.

### Storage Tank Size:

According to design factor 3, the storage tank size is 50 gallons.

The draw efficiency of the storage tank is considered to be 70%. Therefore, 35 gallons of "usable" hot water is available from the tank.

### Storage VS Input:

90 gallons two hour peak hot water usage  
-35 gallons of hot water from storage tank  
55 gallons of hot water to be produced by heat input during two hour peak.

This means 27.5 gallons of hot water per hour must be provided by heat input at the accepted temperature rise used in the locale.

### GAS WATER HEATER SELECTION

From the gas water heater recovery table it is found that, at 90° temperature rise, 27,225 Btuh will produce 27.5 GPH.

An A. O. Smith gas water heater with at least a 50 gallon storage tank and at least 27,225 Btuh input is required to meet the peak usage requirements. Consult A. O. Smith water heater specification sheets to determine model needed.

### ELECTRIC WATER HEATER SELECTION

NOTE: In the following example the fuel used is electricity instead of gas. This does not change the amount of hot water required by the family of four. It may mean a change in the ratio of

tank storage versus heat input to reflect the availability or amount of electricity which is obtainable during the peak usage period.

Two element, non-simultaneous operation:

Upper element – 4500 watts  
Lower element – 4500 watts

90 gallons two hour peak hot water usage  
-35 gallons of hot water from storage tank  
55 gallons of hot water to be produced by heat input during two hour peak.

Figure recovery of one element ... the one with largest wattage. In this example both elements are of same wattage.

20.5 GPH recovery x 2 hours = 41.0 gallons available from element recovery. This is less than the amount of recovery needed.

55.0 gallons of hot water needed from heat input (using 50 gallon storage tank)  
-41.0 from two hour recovery of (1) 4500 watt element  
\*11.0 gallons of hot water "short" two hour peak

It is necessary to increase the size of the storage tank and/or element wattages to satisfy the calculated peak usage. Check your local utility for maximum allowable wattage permitted for water heating. They may also have a minimum storage tank size requirement. Consult A. O. Smith water heater specification sheets to determine model needed.

\* To allow for draw efficiency, divide the "shortage" by .7 when increasing tank size.

**FOR GLOSSARY REFER TO FOLLOWING PAGE AOSSG88150**



## GLOSSARY

The following provides detailed explanations of selected terminology used in the sizing procedure. This is to promote a greater understanding of water heating terms, formula and theory.

- **BTU**...abbreviation for the British thermal unit, which is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

Stated another way, 8.25 Btu will raise the temperature of one gallon of water one degree.

A Btu may be sensed and visualized as about the amount of heat produced by burning one wooden match. One watt-hour of electricity produces 3.413 Btu.

This is the formula for determining the Btu required to heat a given quantity of water a certain number of degrees:

$$\text{Gallons} \times 8.25 \times 1.0 \times \text{temp. rise} = \text{Btu}$$

Where..gallons = Total gallons of hot water required

8.25 = Weight of one gallon of water

1.0 = Specific heat of water (See Specific heat)

Temp. Rise = Difference in degrees between lowest incoming water temperature and desired hot water temperature.

Btu = **Gas water heaters**; divide answer by .75 (recovery efficiency) to obtain equivalent gas input in Btu.

**Electric water heaters**; multiply by 0.293 to obtain element wattage equivalent.

In actual practice a combination of storage and input is used to assure the availability of hot water.

- **Draw efficiency** is considered to be 70% in this report. When using storage type heaters it is common practice to assume 70% of the storage capacity of the heater tank may be drawn before dilution by incoming cold water lowers the hot water temperature below an acceptable level under normal draw conditions. For example, a 40 gallon storage tank would deliver about 28 gallons of usable hot water.
- **Input rating**...The amount of fuel in British thermal units (Btu) consumed by a gas or oil water heater in an hour. In an electric water heater input is usually expressed in watts or kilowatts. Consuming one watt-hour of electricity produces 3.413 Btu.
- **Interlocking**...(See **Non-Simultaneous**)
- **Non-Simultaneous (Interlocking)** element operation is where both of the heating elements in an electric water heater are not permitted to operate at the same time. The electrical circuit is interlocked through the upper thermostat to prevent simultaneous operation.

- **Recovery (capacity)**, the amount of water in gallons per hour, raised at a given recovery efficiency and Btu/h input. Refer to Recovery Table.

This is the formula for determining recovery capacity:

$$\text{Input} \times \text{efficiency} = \text{Recovery in GPH (See Btu)}$$
$$8.25 \times \text{temp. rise}$$

$$\text{Efficiency} = \begin{array}{l} .75 \text{ for gas-fired water heaters} \\ 1.0 \text{ for electric water heaters} \end{array}$$

(also see **Recovery efficiency**)

- **Recovery efficiency**...The ratio of the heat in the water delivered at the heater outlet to the heat input of the heating unit. Also see **Btu**.

Gas-fired residential water heaters are generally considered to have a 75% recovery efficiency. This means 75% of the total heat produced by the burner is absorbed into the water in the tank. The remaining 25% of the heat is used to move the products of combustion through the flue to the outdoors.

Electric residential water heaters are generally considered to have a 100% recovery efficiency. This is because immersion style elements place all the heat into the water and there is no flue.

- **Simultaneous** element operation is where both of the heating elements in an electric water heater are permitted to operate at the same time if necessary. The actual operation of each element is individually controlled by its own thermostat.
- **Specific heat**, the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a given weight of a substance one degree as compared with the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of the same weight of water 1° at some specified temperature.
- **Storage tank**, used for storing hot water in advance of needs. Properly sized, the tank permits large volumes of hot water to be drawn from the system at flow rates exceeding the recovery capacity of the heater. Also see **Draw efficiency**.
- **Temperature rise**, the amount of temperature difference (between incoming and outgoing water) in degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Draw efficiency**, the amount of water that can be drawn from a storage tank, at a 3 gpm flow rate, before the temperature drops 30°F. Heater outlet water temperatures below 110°F is generally not considered as satisfactory or usable.



A.O. SMITH  
500 Tennessee Waltz Parkway  
Ashland City, Tn 37015  
www.hotwater.com  
1.800.527.1953



MISCELLANEOUS WATER USAGE DATA

**Wash sink water consumption rate**

| Bradley Wash Sinks     | GPM @ 105°F  | GPM @ 140°F |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 54" circular sink      | 5            | 3.25        |
| 36" circular sink      | 2            | 1.3         |
| 54" semi-circular sink | 3            | 1.95        |
| 36" semi-circular sink | 1-1/4 to 3.0 | .81 to 1.95 |
| Duo                    | 1.5          | 1           |
| Counter type           | 1.5          | 1           |
| Bradley shower heads   | 2.5 to 3.0   | 1.6 to 1.95 |

**Temperature factors - hot water**

| If Temperature Required Is | Multiply Hot Water Load By |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 70°                        | 0.30                       |
| 80°                        | 0.40                       |
| 90°                        | 0.50                       |
| 100°                       | 0.60                       |
| 110°                       | 0.70                       |
| 120°                       | 0.80                       |
| 130°                       | 0.90                       |
| 140°                       | 1.00                       |
| 150°                       | 1.10                       |
| 160°                       | 1.20                       |
| 170°                       | 1.30                       |
| 180°                       | 1.40                       |

**General purpose hot water consumption guide for various kitchen usages**

| Application               | Consumption (GPH) |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Vegetable sink            | 45                |
| Single pot sink           | 30                |
| Double pot sink           | 60                |
| Triple pot sink           | 90                |
| Pre-scrapper (open type)  | 180               |
| Pre-flush (hand operated) | 45                |
| Pre-flush (closed type)   | 240               |
| Recirculating pre-flush   | 40                |
| Bar sink                  | 30                |
| Lavatories (each)         | 5                 |
| Mop/slop sink             | 20                |

The above table is based on 40° incoming water temperature and a temperature rise of 100° (temperature usage 140°) --- when the delivered water temperature is other than 140°, multiply the volume of water required by the temperature usage factor shown above.

**Temperature factors - cold water**

| When Incoming Cold Water Is | Multiply Hot Water Load By |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 50°                         | 0.90                       |
| 60°                         | 0.80                       |
| 70°                         | 0.70                       |

**Rinse water (180°F) requirements for typical dishwasher + flow pressure at dishwashers assumed to be 20 psi**

| Dishwasher / Type And Size                                 |                     | Flow Rate/GPM   | Consumption/GPH |     |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| door type  | 16 x 16 inches rack | 6.94            | 69              |     |
|  | 18 x 18 inches rack | 8.67            | 87              |     |
|  | 20 x 20 inches rack | 10.4            | 104             |     |
|  | undercounter type   | 5               | 70              |     |
| conveyor type  | single tank         | 6.94            | 416             |     |
|  | multiple tank       | dishes flat     | 5.78            | 347 |
|  |                     | dishes inclined | 4.62            | 277 |
| silver washers   |                     | 7               | 45              |     |
| utensil washers  |                     | 8               | 75              |     |
| make-up water requirements/180°F on certain conveyor types |                     | 2.31            | 139             |     |

+ NSF standard no. 5 - 100% mechanical capacity

# MISCELLANEOUS WATER USAGE DATA

## Proper Flow and Pressure Required During Flow For Different Fixtures

| Fixture                                 | Flow Pressure* | Flow GPM |
|---|----------------|----------|
| Ordinary basin faucet .....             | 8              | 3.0      |
| Self-closing basin faucet .....         | 12             | 2.5      |
| Sink faucet - 3/8 inch .....            | 10             | 4.5      |
| Sink faucet - 1/2 inch .....            | 5              | 4.5      |
| Bathtub Faucet .....                    | 5              | 6.0      |
| Laundry tub cock - 1/4 inch .....       | 5              | 5.0      |
| Shower water saver .....                | 12             | 2.5      |
| Ball-cock for closet .....              | 15             | 3.0      |
| Flush valve for closet .....            | 10-20          | 15-40†   |
| Flush valve for urinal .....            | 15             | 15.0     |
| Garden hose, 50 ft., and still cock ... | 30             | 5.0      |

\* Flow pressure is the pressure psig in the pipe at the entrance to the particular fixture considered.

† Wide range due to variation in design and type of flush-valve closets.

## Water Capacities Of Copper Tubes

| Tube Size  | 1/4"   | 3/8" | 1/2"   | 7/8" | 1"   | 1 1/4" |
|------------|--------|------|--------|------|------|--------|
| Gallon/Ft. |        |      |        |      |      |        |
| Type K     | .004   | .006 | .011   | .023 | .040 | .063   |
| Type L     | .004   | .006 | .012   | .025 | .044 | .065   |
| Tube Size  | 1 1/2" | 2"   | 2 1/2" | 3"   | 4"   | 5"     |
| Gallon/Ft. |        |      |        |      |      |        |
| Type K     | .089   | .157 | .242   | .345 | .607 | .940   |
| Type L     | .092   | .161 | .247   | .354 | .623 | .971   |

## Water Capacities Per Foot Of Pipe

| Pipe Size        | 1/2"   | 3/4" | 1"     | 1 1/4" | 1 1/2" | 2"  |
|------------------|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|-----|
| Gallons Per Foot | .016   | .023 | .040   | .063   | .102   | .17 |
| Pipe Size        | 2 1/2" | 3"   | 3 1/2" | 4"     | 5"     | 6"  |
| Gallons Per Foot | .275   | .39  | .53    | .69    | 1.1    | 1.5 |

## Formula For Mixing Hot and Cold Water

$$\frac{M-C}{H-C} = \text{\% of hot water required to produce desired mixed temperature}$$

Where M = Mixed water temperature  
C = Cold water temperature  
H = Hot water temperature

# Electrical Formulas For Finding Amperes, Horsepowers, Kilowatts and kVA

| To Find                             | Single-Phase  | Alternating Current<br>Two-Phase <sup>1)</sup> , Four-Wire         | Three-Phase   | Direct Current                                  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Kilowatts                           | $\frac{I \times E \times pf}{1000}$                       | $\frac{I \times E \times 2 \times pf}{1000}$                       | $\frac{I \times E \times 1.73 \times pf}{1000}$                       | $\frac{I \times E}{1000}$                       |
| kVA                                 | $\frac{I \times E}{1000}$                                 | $\frac{I \times E \times 2}{1000}$                                 | $\frac{I \times E \times 1.73}{1000}$                                 | —   |
| Horsepower<br>(Output)              | $\frac{I \times E \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}{746}$  | $\frac{I \times E \times 2 \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}{746}$  | $\frac{I \times E \times 1.73 \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}{746}$  | $\frac{I \times E \times \% \text{ EFF}}{746}$  |
| Amperes when Horsepower<br>is Known | $\frac{HP \times 746}{E \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}$ | $\frac{HP \times 746}{2 \times E \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}$ | $\frac{HP \times 746}{1.73 \times E \times \% \text{ EFF} \times pf}$ | $\frac{HP \times 746}{E \times \% \text{ EFF}}$ |
| Amperes when Kilowatts<br>is Known  | $\frac{KW \times 1000}{E \times pf}$                      | $\frac{KW \times 1000}{2 \times E \times pf}$                      | $\frac{KW \times 1000}{1.73 \times E \times pf}$                      | $\frac{KW \times 1000}{E}$                      |
| Amperes when<br>kVA is Known        | $\frac{kVA \times 1000}{E}$                               | $\frac{kVA \times 1000}{2 \times E}$                               | $\frac{kVA \times 1000}{1.73 \times E}$                               | —   |

## Average Efficiency and Power Factor Values of Motors

When the actual efficiencies and power factors of the motors to be controlled are not known, the following approximations may be used.

### Efficiencies<sup>2)</sup>

| Type   | Power Factor |
|--|--------------|
| DC motors, 35 horsepower and less  | 80% to 85%   |
| DC motors, above 35 horsepower   | 85% to 90%   |
| Synchronous motors (at 100% power factor)  | 92% to 95%   |
| "Apparent" Efficiencies (= Efficiency × Power Factor);<br>Three-phase induction motors, 25 horsepower and less | 70%          |
| Three-phase induction motors above 25 horsepower   | 80%          |

## Fault-Current Calculation on Low-Voltage AC Systems

In order to determine the maximum interrupting rate of the circuit breakers in a distribution system, it is necessary to calculate the current which could flow under a three-phase bolted short circuit condition. For a three-phase system the maximum available fault current at the secondary side of the transformer can be obtained by use of the formula:

$$I_{sc} = \frac{kVA \times 100}{KV \times \sqrt{3} \times \% Z}$$

where:

$I_{sc}$  = Symmetrical RMS amperes of fault current.

kVA = Kilovolt-ampere rating of transformers.

KV = Secondary voltage in kilovolts.

% Z = Percent impedance of primary line and transformer.

1) In three-wire, two-phase circuits the current in the common conductor is 1.41 times that in either other conductor.

E = Volts I = Amperes

% EFF = Percent Efficiency pf = Power Factor

2) These figures may be decreased slightly for single-phase and two-phase induction motors.

<http://waterheatertimer.org/Figure-Volts-Amps-Watts-for-water-heater.html>



**VARIOUS FORMULAS FOR WATER HEATING CALCULATIONS**

$$\% \text{ Efficiency} = \frac{\text{GPH} \times 8.25 \times \text{Temp. Rise} \times 1.0}{\text{Btu/Hr. Input}} \quad \text{Specific Heat}$$

$$\text{Btu/Output} = \text{GPH} \times 8.25 \text{ Lbs./Gal.} \times \text{Temp. Rise} \times 1.0$$

$$\text{Btu/Input} = \frac{\text{GPH} \times 8.25 \times \text{Temp. Rise} \times 1.0}{\% \text{ Efficiency}}$$

$$\text{Gal/Per/Hr.} = \frac{\text{Btu/Hr. Input} \times \% \text{ Efficiency}}{\text{Temp. Rise} \times 8.25}$$

$$\text{Rise (°F)} = \frac{\text{Btu/Hr. Input} \times \% \text{ Efficiency}}{\text{GPH} \times 8.25}$$

$$\text{KW} = \frac{\text{GPH} \times 8.25 \times \text{Temp. Rise} \times 1.0}{3413} \quad (\text{OR}) \quad \frac{\text{GPH} \times \text{Temp. Rise}}{414}$$

$$\text{Gal/Per/Hr.} = \frac{\text{KW} \times 3413}{\text{Temp. Rise} \times 8.25} \quad (\text{OR}) \quad \frac{\text{KW} \times 414}{\text{Temp. Rise}}$$

$$\text{Rise (°F)} = \frac{\text{KW} \times 3413}{\text{GPH} \times 8.25} \quad (\text{OR}) \quad \frac{\text{KW} \times 414}{\text{GPH}}$$

$$1 \text{ KW} = 3413 \text{ Btu} = 4.1 \text{ Gals. @ } 100^\circ\text{F Rise}$$

$$1 \text{ KW} = 1,000 \text{ Watts} \quad \text{Btu} \times 0.293 = \text{Watts}$$

Determine % of hot water portion of total mixed water requirements

$$\frac{\text{M-C}}{\text{H-C}} = \frac{140-40}{180-40} = \frac{100}{140} = 71.5\% \text{ of mixture is hot water}$$

% of cold water in mixture is:

$$\frac{\text{H-M}}{\text{H-C}} = \frac{180-140}{180-40} = \frac{40}{140} = 28.5\% \text{ of mixture is cold water.}$$

$$\frac{1 \text{ } \emptyset}{\text{Volts}} = \text{Amps} \quad \text{Volts} \times \text{Amps} = \text{Watts}$$

$$\frac{3 \text{ } \emptyset \text{ (Balanced Circuits)}}{\text{Volts}} = \text{Amps} \quad \text{Volts} \times \text{Amps} \times 1.73 = \text{Watts}$$

**PERCENTAGE OF 180°F PREHEATED WATER TO MIXING VALVE FOR SELECTED MIXED WATER TEMPERATURES**

| Desired Mixed Temperature<br>°F | % of 180°F Water For Each Cold Supply Temperature |      |      |      |     |      |      |
|---------------------------------|---|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
|                                 | 40°   | 50°  | 60°  | 70°  | 80° | 90°  | 100° |
| 180                             | —   | —    | —    | —    | —   | —    | —    |
| 170                             | 92.8  | 92.3 | 91.7 | 90.9 | 90  | 88.8 | 87.5 |
| 160                             | 86  | 85   | 83.3 | 82   | 80  | 78   | 75   |
| 150                             | 78.5  | 76   | 75   | 73   | 70  | 67   | 68.5 |
| 140                             | 71  | 69   | 67   | 64   | 60  | 55.5 | 50   |
| 130                             | 65  | 61.5 | 58   | 54.5 | 50  | 44   | 37.5 |
| 120                             | 57  | 54   | 50   | 45   | 40  | 33   | 25   |
| 110                             | 50  | 46   | 41.5 | 36   | 30  | 21   | 12   |
| 100                             | 43  | 38   | 33   | 27   | 20  | 11   | —    |

Example: 1) Desired mixed outlet water temperature = 140°F 71% of hot water @ 180°F  
 2) Hot water supply (stored water temp) = 180°F 29% of cold water @ 40°F  
 3) Cold water supply = 40°F 100% mixed water @ 140°F

5.1 CAPACITIES OF CYLINDRICAL TANKS IN U.S. GALLONS

| Length<br>in Feet | DIAMETER IN INCHES |     |     |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                   | 12"                | 18" | 24" | 30" | 36" | 42"  | 48"  | 54"  | 60"  | 66"  | 72"  | 78"  | 84"  | 90"  | 96"  | 102" | 108" |
| 1                 | 6                  | 13  | 24  | 37  | 53  | 72   | 94   | 120  | 145  | 180  | 210  | 250  | 290  | 330  | 375  | 425  | 475  |
| 2                 | 12                 | 26  | 48  | 74  | 106 | 144  | 188  | 240  | 290  | 360  | 420  | 500  | 580  | 660  | 750  | 850  | 950  |
| 3                 | 18                 | 39  | 72  | 111 | 159 | 216  | 282  | 360  | 435  | 540  | 630  | 750  | 870  | 990  | 1125 | 1275 | 1425 |
| 4                 | 24                 | 52  | 96  | 148 | 212 | 288  | 376  | 480  | 580  | 720  | 840  | 1000 | 1160 | 1320 | 1500 | 1700 | 1900 |
| 5                 | 30                 | 65  | 120 | 185 | 265 | 360  | 470  | 600  | 725  | 900  | 1050 | 1250 | 1450 | 1650 | 1875 | 2125 | 2375 |
| 6                 | 36                 | 78  | 144 | 222 | 318 | 432  | 564  | 720  | 870  | 1080 | 1260 | 1500 | 1740 | 1980 | 2250 | 2550 | 2850 |
| 7                 | 42                 | 91  | 168 | 259 | 371 | 504  | 658  | 840  | 1015 | 1260 | 1470 | 1750 | 2030 | 2310 | 2625 | 2975 | 3325 |
| 8                 | 48                 | 104 | 192 | 296 | 424 | 576  | 752  | 960  | 1160 | 1440 | 1680 | 2000 | 2320 | 2640 | 3000 | 3400 | 3800 |
| 9                 | 54                 | 117 | 216 | 333 | 477 | 648  | 846  | 1080 | 1305 | 1620 | 1890 | 2250 | 2610 | 2970 | 3375 | 3825 | 4275 |
| 10                | 60                 | 130 | 240 | 370 | 530 | 720  | 940  | 1200 | 1450 | 1800 | 2100 | 2500 | 2900 | 3300 | 3750 | 4250 | 4750 |
| 11                | 66                 | 143 | 264 | 407 | 583 | 792  | 1034 | 1320 | 1595 | 1980 | 2310 | 2750 | 3190 | 3630 | 4125 | 4675 | 5225 |
| 12                | 72                 | 156 | 288 | 444 | 636 | 864  | 1128 | 1440 | 1740 | 2160 | 2520 | 3000 | 3480 | 3960 | 4500 | 5100 | 5700 |
| 13                | 78                 | 169 | 312 | 481 | 689 | 936  | 1222 | 1560 | 1885 | 2340 | 2730 | 3250 | 3770 | 4290 | 4875 | 5525 | 6175 |
| 14                | 84                 | 182 | 336 | 518 | 742 | 1008 | 1316 | 1680 | 2030 | 2520 | 2940 | 3500 | 4060 | 4620 | 5250 | 5950 | 6650 |
| 15                | 90                 | 195 | 360 | 555 | 795 | 1080 | 1410 | 1800 | 2175 | 2700 | 3150 | 3750 | 4350 | 4950 | 5625 | 6375 | 7125 |
| 16                | 96                 | 208 | 384 | 592 | 848 | 1152 | 1504 | 1920 | 2320 | 2880 | 3360 | 4000 | 4640 | 5280 | 6000 | 6800 | 7600 |

To find the capacity in gallons of rectangular tanks, reduce all dimensions to inches, then multiply the length by the width by the height and divide the product by 231.

5.2 WATER EQUIVALENTS

|                     |   |       |                                   |
|---------------------|---|-------|-----------------------------------|
| One U. S. Gallon    | = | .1337 | Cubic Foot                        |
| " " "               | = | 231.  | Cubic Inches                      |
| " " "               | = | .833  | British Imperial Gallon           |
| " " "               | = | 3.785 | Liters                            |
| " " "               | = | 3785. | Cubic Centimeters (Milliliters)   |
| " " " Water         | = | 8.33  | Pounds (Lb.)                      |
| One Cubic Foot      | = | 7.48  | U. S. Gallons                     |
| " " " Water         | = | 62.33 | Pounds (Lb.)                      |
| One Cubic Meter     | = | 1000. | Liters                            |
| " " "               | = | 264.2 | U. S. Gallons                     |
| " " "               | = | 220.  | British Imperial Gallons          |
| " " "               | = | 35.31 | Cubic Feet                        |
| One Boiler H.P. Hr. | = | 4.    | Gallons Water Evaporated per Hour |

5.3 HEAT CHANGES BEHAVIOR OF WATER

When heat is applied, the nature and behavior of water tends to change. As water is heated it immediately starts to expand.

As long as the service pipe between street main and water heater remains unobstructed to reverse flow, the water will move, as it expands, back towards the street main with no measurable increase in pressure.

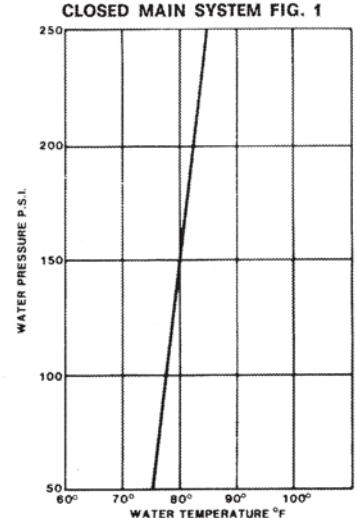
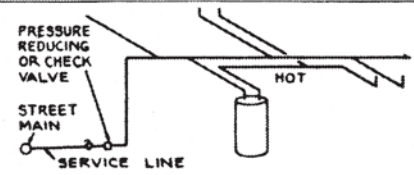
However, should the flow in the service line be limited to flow only towards the service outlets, by the use of a check valve or reducing valve, Fig. 1, or should a manually operated valve be closed, water, as it expands while heating, cannot escape from the system and a damaging pressure could quickly

follow.

Water (unlike air) cannot be compressed appreciably. The confinement of water results in what is called a "closed system."

Water expands at the rate of approximately 0.00023 pct. for each degree of temperature rise. If all of the water in a 30 gal. heater were raised from 60 to 140 F, a temperature rise of 80 deg., it would increase the original volume to 30.55 gal., an increase of .55 gal.

Water confined in a storage tank or piping system will, when subjected to a temperature rise of 10° (increasing from 75° to 85°), increases pressure from 50 lbs. up to 250 lbs.



# TECHNICAL DATA

## 6.4

### WATER CAPACITY PER FOOT OF PIPE

| Pipe Size        | 1/2" | 3/4" | 1"   | 1 1/4" | 1 1/2" | 2"  | 2 1/2" | 3"  | 3 1/2" | 4"  | 5"  | 6"  |
|------------------|------|------|------|--------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|-----|-----|
| Gallons Per Foot | .016 | .023 | .040 | .063   | .102   | .17 | .275   | .39 | .53    | .69 | 1.1 | 1.5 |

## 6.1

### PROPER FLOW AND PRESSURE REQUIRED DURING FLOW FOR DIFFERENT FIXTURES

| Fixture                                | Flow Pressure <sup>a</sup> | Flow gpm           |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Ordinary basin faucet.....             | 8                          | 3.0                |
| Self-closing basin faucet.....         | 12                         | 2.5                |
| Sink faucet—3/8 in.....                | 10                         | 4.5                |
| Sink faucet—1/2 in.....                | 5                          | 4.5                |
| Bathtub faucet.....                    | 5                          | 6.0                |
| Laundry tub cock—1/4 in.....           | 5                          | 5.0                |
| Shower.....                            | 12                         | 5.0                |
| Ball-cock for closet.....              | 15                         | 3.0                |
| Flush valve for closet.....            | 10-20                      | 15-40 <sup>b</sup> |
| Flush valve for urinal.....            | 15                         | 15.0               |
| Garden hose, 50 ft, and sill cock..... | 30                         | 5.0                |

<sup>a</sup> Flow pressure is the pressure psig in the pipe at the entrance to the particular fixture considered.

<sup>b</sup> Wide range due to variation in design and type of flush-valve closets.

### DEMAND WEIGHTS OF FIXTURES IN FIXTURE UNITS

| 6.2<br>Fixture or Group <sup>1</sup> | Occupancy                | Type of Supply Control      | Weight in Fixture Units <sup>o</sup> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Water closet.....                    | Public.....              | Flush valve.....            | 10                                   |
| Water closet.....                    | Public.....              | Flush tank.....             | 5                                    |
| Pedestal urinal.....                 | Public.....              | Flush valve.....            | 10                                   |
| Stall or wall urinal.....            | Public.....              | Flush valve.....            | 5                                    |
| Stall or wall urinal.....            | Public.....              | Flush tank.....             | 3                                    |
| Lavatory.....                        | Public.....              | Faucet.....                 | 2                                    |
| Bathtub.....                         | Public.....              | Faucet.....                 | 4                                    |
| Shower head.....                     | Public.....              | Mixing valve.....           | 4                                    |
| Service sink.....                    | Office, etc.....         | Faucet.....                 | 3                                    |
| Kitchen sink.....                    | Hotel or restaurant..... | Faucet.....                 | 4                                    |
| Water closet.....                    | Private.....             | Flush valve.....            | 6                                    |
| Water closet.....                    | Private.....             | Flush tank.....             | 3                                    |
| Lavatory.....                        | Private.....             | Faucet.....                 | 1                                    |
| Bathtub.....                         | Private.....             | Faucet.....                 | 2                                    |
| Shower head.....                     | Private.....             | Mixing valve.....           | 2                                    |
| Bathroom group.....                  | Private.....             | Flush valve for closet..... | 8                                    |
| Bathroom group.....                  | Private.....             | Flush tank for closet.....  | 6                                    |
| Separate shower.....                 | Private.....             | Mixing valve.....           | 2                                    |
| Kitchen sink.....                    | Private.....             | Faucet.....                 | 2                                    |
| Laundry trays (1-3).....             | Private.....             | Faucet.....                 | 3                                    |
| Combination fixture.....             | Private.....             | Faucet.....                 | 3                                    |

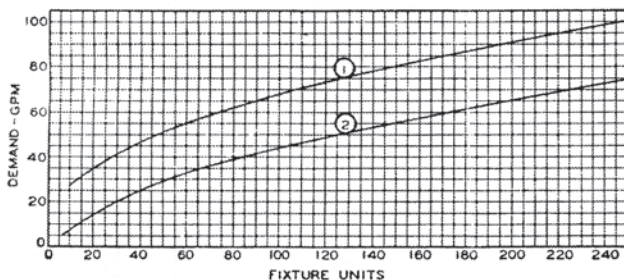
From NBS Report BMS79 *Water-Distributing Systems for Buildings*.

<sup>a</sup> For supply outlets likely to impose continuous demands, estimate continuous supply separately and add to total demand for fixtures.

<sup>b</sup> For fixtures not listed, weights may be assumed by comparing the fixture to a listed one using water in similar quantities and at similar rates.

<sup>o</sup> The given weights are for total demand. For fixtures with both hot and cold water supplies, the weights for maximum separate demands may be taken as 1/2 the listed demand for the supply.

## 6.3 ESTIMATE CURVES FOR DEMAND LOAD



No. 1 for system predominantly for flush valves.

No. 2 for system predominantly for flush tanks.

## 6.5

### WATER CAPACITIES OF COPPER TUBES

| TUBE SIZE  | 1/4   | 3/8  | 1/2   | 3/6  | 1    | 1 1/4 |
|------------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
| GALLON/FT. |       |      |       |      |      |       |
| TYPE K     | .004  | .006 | .011  | .023 | .040 | .063  |
| TYPE L     | .004  | .006 | .012  | .025 | .044 | .065  |
| TUBE SIZE  | 1 1/2 | 2    | 2 1/2 | 3    | 4    | 5     |
| GALLON/FT. |       |      |       |      |      |       |
| TYPE K     | .089  | .157 | .242  | .345 | .607 | .940  |
| TYPE L     | .092  | .161 | .247  | .354 | .623 | .971  |

## 6.6

### FORMULA FOR MIXING HOT AND COLD WATER

$$\frac{M-C}{H-C} = \text{fraction of hot water required to produce desired mixed temperature}$$

where M=mixed water temperature

C=cold water temperature

H=hot water temperature

### TEMPERATURE FACTORS - COLD AND HOT WATER

## 6.7

#### Cold Water

| when incoming cold water is | multiply hot water load by |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 50°                         | 0.90                       |
| 60°                         | 0.80                       |
| 70°                         | 0.70                       |
| Hot Water                   |                            |
| if temperature required is  | multiply hot water load by |
| 70°                         | 0.30                       |
| 80°                         | 0.40                       |
| 90°                         | 0.50                       |
| 100°                        | 0.60                       |
| 110°                        | 0.70                       |
| 120°                        | 0.80                       |
| 130°                        | 0.90                       |
| 140°                        | 1.00                       |
| 150°                        | 1.1                        |
| 160°                        | 1.2                        |
| 170°                        | 1.3                        |
| 180°                        | 1.4                        |

The above table is based on 40° incoming water temperature and a temperature rise of 100° (temperature usage 140°) — when the delivered water temperature is other than 140°, multiply the volume of water required by the temperature usage factor shown above.

# Fundamentals of Water Heating

*Training*

MANUAL





# Fundamentals of Water Heating Training Manual

## Table of Contents


|  |    |
|--|----|
| INTRODUCTION .....                                   | 3  |
| WATER HEATER SAFETY .....                            | 3  |
| WATER CHEMISTRY .....                                | 5  |
| ANODE RODS AND CATHODIC PROTECTION .....             | 9  |
| MILKY WATER AND DISSOLVED GASSES .....               | 11 |
| SMELLY WATER AND THE ROTTEN EGG ODOR .....           | 12 |
| CHLORINATION OF WATER HEATER TANKS .....             | 13 |
| DIAGNOSING YOUR WATER PROBLEM .....                  | 14 |
| OPEN AND CLOSED WATER HEATER SYSTEMS .....           | 15 |
| THERMAL EXPANSION .....                              | 16 |
| TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE RELIEF (T&P) VALVES .....   | 18 |
| PLUMBING CROSS OVER .....                            | 20 |
| HOT WATER AVAILABILITY AND CONSUMPTION FACTORS ..... | 21 |
| DRAW TEST AND FLOW RATES .....                       | 23 |
| FIRST HOUR DELIVERY .....                            | 24 |
| SIZING OF A RESIDENTIAL WATER HEATER .....           | 26 |
| ENERGY FACTOR .....                                  | 28 |
| VACATIONS AND LONG TERM IDLE TIME .....              | 28 |
| SUBMERGED WATER HEATERS .....                        | 29 |
| INSTALLATION - SERIES AND PARALLEL .....             | 29 |
| SERIES INSTALLATION .....                            | 30 |
| PARALLEL INSTALLATION .....                          | 31 |
| PERCENTAGE OF HOT AND COLD WATER MIX .....           | 32 |
| FORMULAS AND FACTS .....                             | 34 |
| GLOSSARY .....                                       | 37 |

## Index of Figures

|   |    |
|---|----|
| FIG 1 - SCALDING WARNING .....  | 3  |
| FIG 2 - FLAMMABLE VAPORS WARNING .....  | 4  |
| FIG 3 - WATER HARDNESS .....  | 6  |
| FIG 4 - SEDIMENT BUILD-UP .....   | 7  |
| FIG 5 - NEW ANODE ROD .....   | 9  |
| FIG 6 - PARTIALLY SACRIFICED ANODE ROD .....  | 10 |
| FIG 7 - FULLY SACRIFICED ANODE ROD .....  | 11 |
| FIG 8 - TANK WITH BULGED BOTTOM .....   | 16 |
| FIG 9 - THERMAL EXPANSION TANKS .....   | 17 |
| FIG 10 - TEMPERATURE & PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE .....                                    | 18 |
| FIG 11 - T&P VALVE CUTAWAY VIEW .....   | 19 |
| FIG 12 - PROPER T&P VALVE LOCATIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL WATER HEATERS ..... | 19 |
| FIG 13 - SERIES INSTALLATION .....  | 30 |
| FIG 14 - PARALLEL INSTALLATION .....  | 31 |

## Index of Tables

|   |    |
|---|----|
| TABLE 1 - SCALDING .....  | 3  |
| TABLE 2 - PRESSURE BUILD UP IN A CLOSED SYSTEM .....            | 16 |
| TABLE 3 - SHOWER TIME AVAILABLE .....                           | 23 |
| TABLE 4 - DRAW TEST AND FLOW RATES .....                        | 24 |
| TABLE 5 - WATER HEATER RECOVERY RATES IN GALLONS PER HOUR ..... | 25 |
| TABLE 6 - SAMPLE PEAK HOUR DEMAND CALCULATION .....             | 26 |
| TABLE 7 - PEAK HOUR DEMAND CALCULATION BLANK WORKSHEET .....    | 27 |
| TABLE 8 - PERCENTAGE OF HOT AND COLD WATER MIX .....            | 32 |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>RHEEM<br/>MANUFACTURING<br/>COMPANY</b>  | Technical Support Line<br>Service Department<br>1-800-HEATER3<br>1-800-432-8373                            |
| <b>WATER<br/>HEATER<br/>DIVISION</b>  |  |
|   | 2600 Gunter Park Drive East<br>Montgomery, AL 36109-1413<br>FAX (334) 260-1341<br>Email:Techserv@rheem.com |

Question, comments, or suggestions for this manual may be directed to the Technical Training Administrator.

Copyright 8 2000, Rheem Manufacturing Company, Water Heater Division.

### !! Warnings and Cautions !!

Before inspecting, diagnosing, repairing or operating any water heater, be sure to examine all of the safety and warning labels on the tank. Follow the instruction on these warning labels. Read and understand the Use and Care Manual that was shipped with the water heater. Failure to do so can result in unsafe operation of the water heater resulting in property damage, bodily injury, or death. Should you have any problems reading or following the instructions in the Use and Care Manual, seek the help of a licensed and qualified professional.

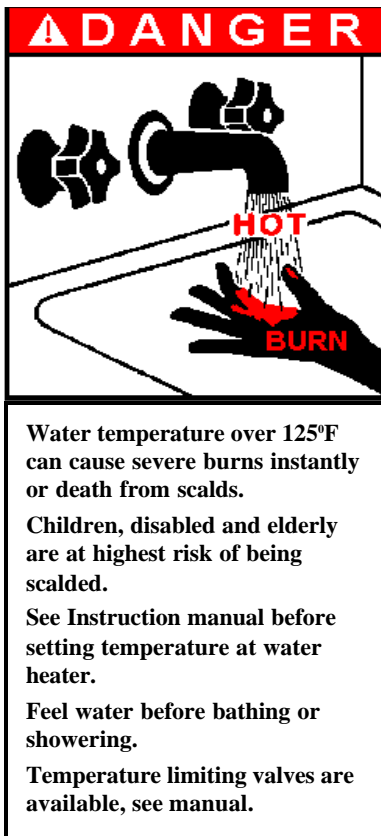
## INTRODUCTION

This is a training manual, not a job site service manual; nor a parts manual. The intent of this manual is to train users of residential or commercial water heaters using gas or electricity as a fuel source. This manual does not assume any particular user liability, skill level, experience or expertise. The terms and component parts used in this manual are current manufactured items or vendor provided items used in Rheem water heaters. Finally, we encourage all users to exercise good common sense and check your local plumbing, gas and electrical codes.

## WATER HEATER SAFETY

*Here are some important safety issues to consider when servicing or repairing a water heater.*

### Scalding



*Fig 1 - Scalding Warning*

Water temperatures over 125 degrees Fahrenheit can cause severe burns instantly or death from scalds. Children, disabled and elderly are at the highest risk of being scalded and may require a thermostat setting of 120 degrees or lower to prevent contact with "HOT" water. Safety and energy conservation are factors to be considered when selecting the water temperature setting of a water heaters thermostat. It will take less than five seconds to produce a serious burn if the water temperature is 140 degrees. Maximum water temperatures occur just after the water heater has recovered (heated all the water in the tank to the thermostat setting). To find the hot water temperature being delivered, turn on a hot water faucet, place a thermometer in the hot water stream and read the temperature on the thermometer. You may also consider installing thermostatically controlled shower and tub valves which reduce the water temperature to a safer level of 115 degrees or less.

*Table 1 - Scalding*

| Temperature | Time to Scald       |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 125° F      | 1 1/2 to 2 minutes  |
| 130° F      | About 30 seconds    |
| 135° F      | About 10 seconds    |
| 140° F      | Less than 5 seconds |
| 145° F      | Less than 3 seconds |
| 150° F      | About 1 1/2 seconds |
| 155° F      | About 1 second      |

*Table courtesy of Shriner's  
Burn Institute*

## Electrical Shock

Electric water heaters may pose a risk of electrical shock. When installed properly, all exposed wires to the thermostat and heating elements are protected and covered. The risk of shock exists when these service panels are removed to adjust the thermostat setting or to reset the energy cut off switch. Power supply must be shut off before removing access panels prior to adjusting thermostat(s) or resetting the temperature limiting control.

## Flammable Vapors

Vapors from flammable liquids will explode and catch fire causing death or severe burns. Do not use or store flammable products such as gasoline, solvents or adhesives in the same room or area near the water heater. Flammable vapors cannot be seen, are heavier than air, travel a long way on the floor, and can be carried from other rooms to the pilot flame by air currents. Keep flammable products far away from the heater, in tightly closed and approved containers, and out of reach of children. Do not install a gas water heater where flammable products will be stored or used unless the main burner and pilot flames are at least eighteen inches above the floor. This will reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of vapors being ignited by the main burner or pilot flame.

## Gaseous Fuels

Both liquid petroleum and natural gas have an odorant added to help in their detection. Some people may not be physically able to smell or recognize this odorant. If you are not sure or unfamiliar about the smell associated with LP or natural gas, ask your local gas supplier.

| <b>⚠ DANGER</b>  |   |
|--|---|
|  |   |
| <p>Vapors from flammable liquids will explode and catch fire causing death or severe burns.</p> <p>Do not use or store flammable products such as gasoline, solvents or adhesives in the same room or area near the water heater.</p> <p>Keep flammable products:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. far away from heater,</li> <li>2. in approved containers,</li> <li>3. tightly closed and</li> <li>4. out of children's reach.</li> </ol> | <p>Water heater has a main burner and pilot flame.</p> <p>The pilot flame:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. is on all the time and</li> <li>2. will ignite flammable vapors.</li> </ol> <p>Vapors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. cannot be seen,</li> <li>2. are heavier than air,</li> <li>3. go a long way on the floor and</li> <li>4. can be carried from other rooms to the pilot flame by air currents.</li> </ol> |
| <p><b>Installation:</b></p> <p>Do not install water heater where flammable products will be stored or used unless the main burner and pilot flames</p>   | <p>are at least 18" above the floor. This will reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of vapors being ignited by the main burner or pilot flame.</p>   |
| <p>Read and follow water heater warnings and instructions. If owners manual is missing, contact the retailer or manufacturer.</p>  |   |

*Fig 2 - Flammable Vapors Warning*

If you smell gas, leave the house immediately and make sure your family and pets leave also. Leave the doors open for ventilation. Go to a neighbors house and call your gas supplier, a qualified service agency or the fire department. Keep the area clear until the service call has been made, the leak corrected and a qualified agency has determined the areas to be safe.

***See the Use and Care Manual included with each water heater for additional safety information.***

## WATER CHEMISTRY



All of the water that we use in our homes comes from either a ground water source or a surface water source. Ground water sources include a well; surface water sources include lakes, streams or reservoirs. According to the U.S. Geological Survey in 1990, about 44% of domestic water comes from ground sources. The remaining 56% comes from a surface water source.

Each person uses an average of about 100 gallons of water per day. This includes baths, showers, cooking, clothes and dish washing, grooming and waste disposal. The largest user of household water is the toilet followed by the shower.

|                 |            |               |            |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Toilets         | 35 gallons | Baths/showers | 28 gallons |
| Clothes washing | 18 gallons | Faucets       | 13 gallons |
| Dishwashing     | 3 gallons  |               |            |

With the exception of the toilet flush, all of the these activities either use hot water or have the potential to use hot water. That means that 64% of our average water usage involves the hot water heating system in our homes.

Hot water is a complex environment that enhances the existing capability of naturally occurring minerals to cause corrosion, scale deposits and odor problems. These minerals are already present in the cold water supply. When water is heated, it acts differently than cold water. For example:

Water changes volume (expands) when heated, and it is virtually incompressible. We all know that when water freezes, it expands and may burst household plumbing fixtures and pipes. Water also expands when it is heated. That is why water heaters have a Temperature and Pressure Relief valve installed. One of the common effects of such expansion is that hot water backs into the cold water supply lines of the water heater or causes the T&P valve to dribble if the system is closed.



Heating water releases gasses present in the water. Water naturally contains dissolved gasses such as oxygen, chlorine, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide. At a given pressure, such as a normal 40 PSI household, the amount of gas that water can hold is less as the temperature increases. This is exactly what happens inside a water heater. With a normal household pressure, the water is heated. The heated water releases the gas causing the faucet to ‘spit’ when there is a hot water draw. One of the common occurrences may be a complaint of ‘milky water’ from the tap. Allowing the water to stand for several minutes will cause the bubbles to rise into the atmosphere and the water will turn clear. The analogy is to boil a pot of water. As the cold water is heated, air bubbles form on the side of the pot. These air bubbles are the

gasses formed by the application of heat to the water. The same thing happens, on a smaller scale, inside a water heater.

Heating water causes existing minerals to settle faster and in larger quantities. As the water is heated, it becomes lighter and less dense. The naturally occurring solids, although not visible to the eye, will settle at a faster rate. The result is sediment collecting at the bottom of the tank. Routine draining maintenance will help reduce the collection of sediment. If a homeowner does not periodically drain and flush the tank, the sediment will harden on the bottom the tank. The result is a clogged drain valve and reduced efficiency of the heater, especially in gas water heaters.

Hot water is more corrosive than cold water. Water is a universal solvent and will naturally corrode (or dissolve) most materials. This corrosion is nothing more than a chemical reaction (steel + water + oxygen = rust). Chemical reactions are usually accelerated with the application of heat. This is also true of corrosion reactions in hot water. The rate of corrosion approximately doubles from 140° F to 160° F; and doubles again from 160° F to 180° F. With these few ideas in mind, lets investigate the more common complaints in a hot water system.



Fig 3 - Water Hardness

### **pH Acidity vs Alkalinity**

The term "pH" is used to indicate acidity or alkalinity of a given solution. It is not a measure of the quantity of acid or alkali, but rather a measure of the relationship of the acid to the alkali. The pH value of a solution describes its hydrogen-ion activity. The pH scale ranges between 0 and 14.

Acidic [ 0 ]===== [ 7 ]===== [ 14 ] Alkaline

Typically all natural waters fall within the range of 6.0 to 8.0 pH. A value of 7.0 is considered to be a neutral pH. Values below 7.0 are acidic and values above 7.0 are alkaline. Water with a pH value of 3.5 or below, generally contains mineral acids such as sulfuric or hydrochloric acid.

### **Water Hardness**

Hard water is found in more than 85% of the United States. Water hardness is due to the presence of two dissolved minerals - calcium and magnesium. So common are these two minerals in water that practically no supply can be found that does not contain at least one or two

grains per gallon. The hardness of a water supply is determined by the content of calcium and magnesium salts. Calcium and magnesium combine with bicarbonates, sulfates, chlorides, and nitrates to form these salts. Mineral concentrations may be expressed as grains per gallon or parts per million. When you have high levels of calcium and magnesium in your water more scrubbing power and more detergent is required to clean and wash clothing. The following are some of the tell-tale signs of hard water:

- Difficult to remove soap scum on tubs, showers, basins and faucet fixtures.
- Reduced sudsing and cleaning capabilities of some soaps and detergents.
- Scale build up around faucet fixtures and on the inside of a water heater

Scale build up is one of the most serious problems caused by hard water mineral deposits. These deposits, commonly called lime build up, may clog water pipes, collect in the bottom of water heaters or collect on electrical heating elements immersed inside the water heater. The build up on the electrical heating elements will insulate the elements and reduce their efficiency. Eventually, the elements will fail. If this sediment is allowed to remain in the tank, it will gradually sink to the bottom where it will harden into an insoluble scale. This will lead to a reduction in the efficiency of the heater, clogging of the drain valve and may lead to eventual tank failure.



*Fig 4 - Sediment Build-up*

## **Hydrogen Sulfide**

Hydrogen sulfide ( $H_2S$ ) is a gas present in some waters. Hydrogen sulfide is a gas that is present in two forms, depending on the pH of the water. At higher pH levels  $H_2S$  is present in the alkaline sulfide form and at lower pH levels it is present in the gaseous form. There is never any doubt when it is present due to its offensive “rotten egg” odor in concentrations as low as one part per million. A common mistake is incorrectly determining the source of the sulfur. Hydrogen sulfide in most areas is usually present in the source water. Hydrogen sulfide is present in the incoming cold water supply and normally found only in ground water. Hydrogen sulfide gas can produce a favorable condition for the growth of organisms referred to as ‘sulfate reducing bacteria’. This favorable condition is enhanced with the application of heat, such as in a water heater. The smell is most noticeable with the first hot water draw in the morning or maybe when you get home from work. In this instance, the smell can be produced in the hot water system when sulfates are converted to sulfide by bacterial reduction. These bacteria are known as *Desulfovibrio Desulfuricans*. It is possible to completely remove the hydrogen sulfide at the point-of-entry only to have it re-formed in the water heater. To determine if the water heater is involved, run the cold water only inside the house - preferably in a shower stall. If no

odor is detected, turn off the cold water and run the hot water only. The presence of sulfur in the hot water, but not the cold, indicates that bacterial activity is the cause of the sulfur smell.

## Iron

Iron is a common element in nature. It is not surprising that most surface or ground water contains some iron. Natural iron usually occurs as an insoluble oxide, but the ground water recharge process collects iron in a soluble form that is dissolved in water. The water is clear when drawn but turns cloudy when it comes in contact with air. The air oxidizes the ferrous iron and converts it to ferric iron. Ferric iron, or ferric hydroxide, is visible in the water when drawn; hence the name "red water iron". Heme iron is organically bound iron complexed with decomposed vegetation. The organic materials complexed with the iron are called tannins or lignins. These organics cause the water to have a weak tea or coffee color. Certain types of bacteria use iron as an energy source. They oxidize the iron from its ferrous state to its ferric state and deposit it in the slimy gelatinous material which surround them. These bacteria grow in stringy clumps and are found in most iron bearing waters.

At 0.3 parts per million or greater concentrations, iron can produce brown or red stains on plumbing fixtures, laundry or masonry surfaces. In higher concentrations, it can produce an unpleasant metallic taste in the water. Iron can also produce favorable conditions for the growth of "iron bacteria". Left untreated, these bacteria results in a jelly-like slimy mass. This mass can cause clogged pipes and filter screens and produce a foul tasting water. Other indications of the presence of iron are:

- Black or rust colored particles that settle to the bottom of a container.
- Water appears rusty or has a red or yellow color when drawn from a faucet.
- Slimy brown or red film in plumbing fixtures, especially inside a toilet tank.

*Service tip: Check the inside of a porcelain toilet tank for colored stains.  
The color of the stains may indicate the mineral content of the water.*

## Manganese

Manganese is rarely found alone in a water source, but is usually paired with iron. At concentrations of 0.05 parts per million, manganese can cause black staining of fixtures, laundry or masonry. It is hard to treat because of the complexes it can form which are dependent on the oxidation state, pH, bicarbonate-carbonate-OH ratios, and the presence of other minerals, particularly iron. Concentrations higher than 0.05 mg/l cause manganese deposits and staining of clothing and plumbing fixtures. The stains are dark brown to black in nature. The use of chlorine bleach in the laundry will cause the stains to set. The chemistry of manganese in water is similar to that of iron. High levels of manganese in the water produces an unpleasant odor and taste. Organic materials can tie up manganese in the same manner as they do iron, therefore destruction of the organic matter is a necessary part of manganese removal. Deposits of manganese can collect in plumbing systems and produce a dark brown or black sediment and black turbidity (suspension of particles) in the water. Like iron, manganese can also produce favorable growth conditions for "manganese bacteria" and clog screens and plumbing lines. Together with iron, manganese bacteria cause a general deterioration or water quality by creating taste, odor and staining problems.



## **Turbidity**

Turbidity is the term given to anything that is suspended in a water supply. It is found in most surface waters, but usually doesn't exist in ground waters except in shallow wells and springs after heavy rains. Turbidity gives the water a cloudy appearance or shows up as dirty sediment. Undissolved materials such as sand, clay, silt or suspended iron contribute to turbidity. Turbidity can cause the staining of sinks and fixtures as well as the discoloring of fabrics. Turbidity can be particles in the water consisting of finely divided solids, larger than molecules, but not visible by the naked eye.

## **Odors & Taste**

Taste and odor problems of many different types can be encountered in water that is heated. Troublesome compounds may result from biological growth or industrial activities. The tastes and odors may be produced in the water supply, in the water treatment plant from reactions with treatment chemicals, in the distribution system, or in the plumbing of consumers. Tastes and odors can be caused by mineral contaminants in the water, such as the "salty" taste of water when large quantities of chlorides are present, or the "rotten egg" odor caused by hydrogen sulfide. Moderate concentrations of algae in the water can cause it to have a "grassy", "musty" or "spicy" odor. Decaying vegetation is probably the most common cause for taste and odor in surface water supplies. In treated water supplies chlorine can react with organics and cause odor problems.

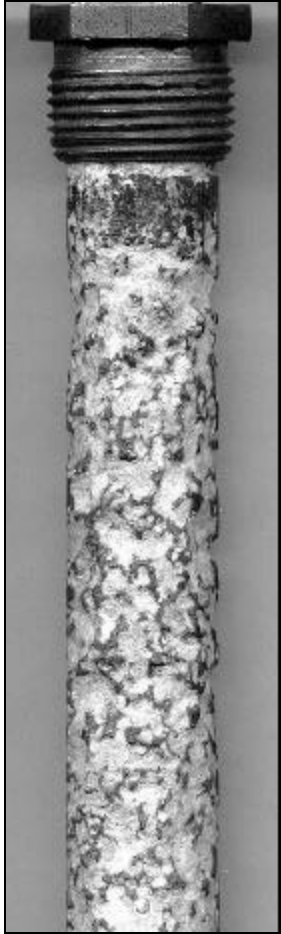
## **ANODE RODS AND CATHODIC PROTECTION**

Corrosion can be defined as the destructive attack of a metal by an electrochemical reaction with its environment. Steel exposed to moisture and oxygen will rust and corrode. Corrosion is defined as the 'eating away' of metal by electrochemical means. There are four main factors affecting water's ability to corrode:



1. Acidity - Water is made acidic by naturally occurring dissolved gases such as carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide.
2. Temperature - Temperature speeds up the corrosive process. Chemists have a rule of thumb that for every 49°F increase in temperature, chemical reactions increase two fold.
3. Electrical conductivity - The more dissolved mineral solids in the water, the greater its ability to carry electrical current. When dissimilar metals are in the water:  
Electrical current flows between metals  
One of the metals gradually corrodes faster than the other
4. Amount of dissolved oxygen - Free oxygen dissolved in the water promotes corrosion.

*Fig 5 - New Anode Rod*



Dissimilar metals are present in the interior steel tank surfaces of all water heaters in several forms such as the drain nipples, heating elements, inlet and outlet nipples and the anode rod. These metals, and others present in the water itself, combined with the oxygen content of the water and heat present establish an environment conducive to corrosion. Some definitions that may be helpful are:

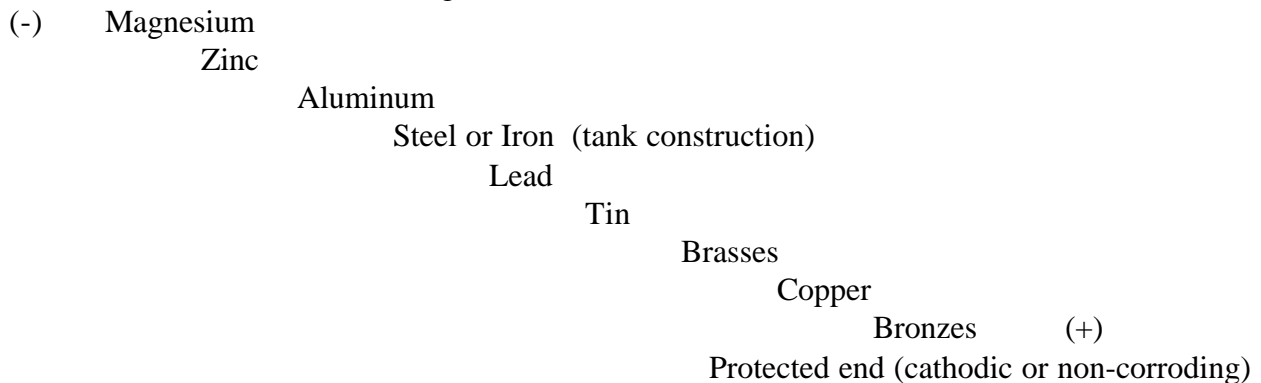
**Electrolysis-** An electromagnetic field produced by the movement of water in a confined space. As water is heated, the hot water rises to the top of the tank. Obviously, the inner storage tank is a confined space.

**Cathodic protection** - Minute electrical current produced by the heating of water is known as electrolysis. The inner tank of the water heater acts as a magnet or receiver of this electrical circuit. As the water is heated, metals inside the tank (steel tank, brass fittings, anode rod) attract the electrical current. By designing an anode rod more conductive of electricity than the steel tank, the steel tank is protected. The process of the sacrificial anode rod is known as cathodic protection.

*Fig 6 - Partially Sacrificed Anode Rod*

Here is a portion of a galvanic series chart showing the reaction of metals in relationship to its negativity or ability to conduct electricity. The more negative (or anodic) the metal is, the greater the ability to conduct electricity before the steel water heater tank.

Corroded end (anodic or corroding state)



You can see from the chart that magnesium and aluminum, standard metals in anode rods, will react before a steel water tank. Service conditions have also accelerated water heater corrosion problems. The increasing demand for hot water coupled with the trend toward higher temperatures have suggested corrosion increases as temperature and water throughput increases.

In a water heater, corrosion is protected by a glass (actually a porcelain enamel) lining in the steel tank, and the use of auxiliary anode rods. During the manufacturing process, the inside water tank and both the top and bottom heads are sprayed with a liquid glass material. Glass technology allows the glass to adhere to the steel interior, and is accomplished by applying a precise thickness of glass mixture to the tank and heating for a precise time period. This material is fired in a furnace, and when cooled, resembles a porcelain lining. This glass provides a long life to the steel tank; otherwise the tank would fail or corrode in a relatively short time. Every glasslined water tank, no matter how carefully it is manufactured, has some bare metal exposed. This is due to the inability to effectively cover sharp corners and the radius around the fittings. There is a chance that a crack or chip in the porcelain lining will allow the water to come in contact with the steel tank. Over time, water, a universal solvent that becomes more aggressive with temperature, breaks down the interior tank lining. This will create conditions for corrosion, pin holes in the tank and finally tank failure.

Cathodic protection is accomplished in the glasslined water heater through the use of an auxiliary magnesium anode with a patented Rheem resistor. Due to the relative position of magnesium to steel in the electromotive series of metals, magnesium will corrode producing an abundance of electrons which flow (much the same as an electrical current) to the exposed steel surface and maintaining it in the electro-negative state. As current flow takes place, the anode rod attracts the electromagnetic current and reacts chemically to corrode at a rate faster than the steel inner tank. This process stops tank corrosion by substituting the sacrificial magnesium anode rod in place of the steel tank. As long as the magnesium anode rod remains in the tank, in an active state, there will be no corrosion of the minute areas of exposed steel inside the tank.

The life of the anode, in turn, depends on water temperature, amount of water used, and the quality of the glass lining. However, the most important factor in the life of the anode rod is the water chemistry and the hardness or softness of the water. Also check the manufacture and installation date of the water heater. If the heater is more than five (5) years old, and the anode rod has not been replaced, inspect the anode rod. The anode should be replaced when there is six (6) inches or more exposed core wire at either end.



*Fig 7 - Fully Sacrificed Anode Rod*

## **MILKY WATER AND DISSOLVED GASSES**

Gasses such as oxygen, chlorine, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide and others are soluble in water. In fact, water is made up of two gasses, Hydrogen and Oxygen ( $H_2O$ ). The amount of gas that water can hold is decreased as the temperature of the water increases. For example, a pot of cold water is placed on a stove to boil. When the pot is first put on the stove, there are no

bubbles. As the water is heated, bubbles form on the bottom and sides of the pot. This is the perfect example of gasses, naturally present in the water, being released as the temperature of the water increases.

Another point that is noteworthy is that hot water from a faucet may also expel these naturally occurring gasses. One of the more common occurrences is the phenomenon called milky water. The hot water, when drawn into a clear glass, may appear discolored or chalky. Allow the glass to stand for a few minutes and the water becomes clear. By allowing the water to stand for several minutes, the small gas bubbles, that give the appearance of milky water, will dissipate and the condition will clear. Aerated faucets may help in reducing the likelihood of this happening.

In the plumbing field, we should also be aware of a couple of other effects of this gas release. As pressure inside a plumbing system increases, the water's ability to retain dissolved gasses increases. The higher the pressure, the more dissolved gasses in the water. Significant pressure drops may occur at the inner radius of elbows and fittings under high pressure. This rapid pressure drop may release gas bubbles. These gas bubbles have an abrasive effect on piping and are an important factor in corrosion-erosion.

The release of dissolved gas also creates air pockets and air locks in plumbing systems. The spurts of air or gas when opening a hot water faucet can be attributed to the release of dissolved gasses in the water. Other gasses, such as hydrogen, can be a by-product of severe corrosion activity in a plumbing system.

## **SMELLY WATER AND THE ROTTEN EGG ODOR**

The incidence of rotten egg odor or black water in hot water lines is due to the reaction of sulfates and micro-organisms in the water. This condition is a water problem, rather than a water heater problem. A quick check for the cause of the odor is to draw enough hot water to notice the odor. Then move to another faucet, or wait until the smell dissipates, and draw cold water. The source of the odor may be in the cold water supply, such as untreated rural water systems or well water.

For many years the regular magnesium anode was and is the standard anode for use in water heater tanks. In general, it is a very good anode, however, the performance is dependent on water chemistry. In waters where the conductivity is low, the anode operates at very low current levels. Conversely, where the water conductivity is high, an excessive amount of current is produced with inefficient operation. In addition, some of these waters have excessive sulfate content along with various strains of sulfate reducing bacteria. These bacteria, harmless to health, will grow in the presence of the highly active magnesium anode and will produce hydrogen sulfide gas, utilizing the hydrogen ion from the anode cathode reaction. The greater activity of the anode, the greater amount of the hydrogen ion and hydrogen sulfide gas. These bacteria can be killed with adequate additions of chlorine and or ozone. This will usually eliminate the odor problem.

Although there is very little literature associating odors and sulfate reduction with magnesium, there is reference to sulfate-reducing bacteria known as **desulfovibrio**. These bacteria cannot grow in the presence of atmospheric oxygen, which may account for their not being noticed in cold water supplies. When the same water is heated, they become noticeable.

There are two ways to eliminate an odor or black water problem. They are listed in the order of preference.

1. Chlorination - by means of a continuous chlorine feeder; or periodic flushing with a common household bleach. This process is 100% effective only if a continuous chlorine feeder is installed.
2. Install a new R-TECH anode rod after the water heater has been flushed with household bleach. This process may not be 100% effective because bacteria is still allowed to grow inside the tank.

### **CHLORINATION OF WATER HEATER TANKS**

1. Turn off the manual electrical switch or shut off the gas supply.
2. Close the cold water inlet valve at the heater.
3. Open a nearby hot water faucet and the T&P valve to relieve tank pressure.
4. Drain the heater of enough water to compensate for the bleach. Use a hose connected to the drain valve if an open drain is not adjacent to the heater.
5. Remove relief valve, anode rod or disconnect the hot water outlet pipe from the heater.
6. Pour one gallon of bleach for every 30 gallons of water heater tank capacity. Use the relief valve, anode rod or hot water outlet pipe opening. Re-pipe the heater and close the T&P valve.
7. Open the cold water inlet valve at the heater and fill the tank with water. Observe the water level through the closest hot water faucet. Close inlet valve when the tank is full.
8. Leave the bleach mixture in the heater for one hour.
9. After one hour, open all the hot water faucets and allow the bleach mixture to clean the hot water supply pipes. Drain the remaining bleach mixture from the tank through the heater drain valve.
10. Close the heater drain valve, make sure the cold water inlet valve is open, and completely fill the tank with fresh water. Leave the water in the tank for 15 minutes.
11. After 15 minutes, purge the hot water supply lines and drain the water from the tank through the heater drain valve. Close the drain valve. Check anode rod for serviceability; replace with a new R-TECH anode rod if there are signs of deterioration.
12. Make sure you purge all the air from the hot water lines from the open hot water faucets. Close the hot water faucet after all the air is out of the system.
13. Check for water leaks at all fittings used; repair as necessary.
14. Turn on the manual electrical switch or gas supply from step 1 above.
15. Check for normal water heater operation.

## DIAGNOSING YOUR WATER PROBLEM

| Does your water have a strange appearance?      | Potential Causes   | Potential Contaminants   | Suggested Treatment Options                                     |
|---|--|--|---|
| Turbid or cloudy                                | organic or suspended matter; defective well screen; inadequate public treatment  | dirt, sand, clay, silt, organic matter                                       | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Blue-green stains on sink or around fixtures    | corrosive water reacting with brass and copper fittings                          | brass; copper  | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Brown-red stains or discolored clothing         | naturally occurring iron in the water; iron bacteria leached from old iron pipes | Iron; rust   | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Yellowish color                                 | water passing through peat soil and vegetation (well water)                      | tannins (humic acid); same stains as wet tree leaves have fallen on concrete | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Black stains on fixtures or clothing            | naturally occurring manganese usually found with iron                            | manganese  | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Blackening and pitting of stainless steel sinks | excess salt; improper treatment; excess chlorine                                 | chlorine   | contact local health agency or public water utility             |
| Milky   | excessive air or particles in the water  | possible sediment in water heater  | let water stand and it will go away; flush sediment from heater |

| Does your water have a strange taste? | Potential Causes  | Potential Contaminants                                  | Suggested Treatment Options                         |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Salty or brackish                     | salt water intrusion into water source  | sodium; inorganic salts                                 | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Metallic taste                        | corrosive water causing leaching; naturally occurring high mineral content                            | iron; manganese   | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Alkali taste                          | corrosive water causing leaching; naturally occurring high mineral content (usually in private wells) | undisclosed minerals                                    | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Sharp chemical taste                  | industrial activities close by; waste disposal close by   | semi-volatile organic compounds; herbicides; pesticides | contact local health agency or public water utility |

| Does your water have a strange odor? | Potential Causes                              | Potential Contaminants                    | Suggested Treatment Options                         |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Musty or earthy                      | algae; vegetation                             | organic matter such as leaves             | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Chlorine                             | excess chlorine or inadequate de-chlorination | chlorine                                  | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Detergent                            | septic discharge into water supply            | detergents                                | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Rotten eggs                          | sewage; sulfate reducing bacteria             | hydrogen sulfide gas;sulfates             | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Fishy, sweet or perfume              | industrial chemicals; waste                   | volatile organics; semi-volatile organics | contact local health agency or public water utility |
| Oil or gas                           | gasoline or oil leaks into water supply       | gasoline, oil, benzene                    | contact local health agency or public water utility |

| Does your water have a strange texture? | Potential Causes                                   | Potential Contaminants | Suggested Treatment Options  |
|---|--|------------------------|--|
| Gritty or abrasive                      | defective well screen; inadequate public treatment | fine sand, grit        | contact local health agency or public water utility                |
| Scum or white deposits                  | elevated levels of calcium and magnesium salts     | hard water             | contact local health agency or public water utility;water softener |

## OPEN AND CLOSED WATER HEATER SYSTEMS

Water heater systems may be installed as either an ‘open’ or ‘closed’ system. Water in an ordinary water heater tank is under a certain pressure depending on the supply pressure in the system (the cold water supply pressure to the residence). As this water is heated, its volume increases. If there is no check valve, pressure reducing valve or other obstruction in the cold water line, the system is open and water pressure will back up into the cold water supply line. If enough pressure exists inside the water heater, the pressure will force water back into the municipal supply system. Therefore, in an open system, the water pressure in the water heater tank will always be equal to the supply pressure. Some municipalities are introducing codes that prevent this return to the city main system.

The presence of a check valve, backflow preventer, water pressure reducing valve, or closing the shut-off valve in the cold water line makes the plumbing system a closed system.



In this situation, the increased water pressure is trapped inside the heater tank and cannot back up or equalize into the cold water supply line. Being trapped, the pressure will become increasingly greater. Eventually, the pressure inside the water heater will exceed the limits of the Temperature & Pressure relief (T&P) valve and the valve will discharge. If the T&P valve is not installed or not operating an even more serious condition could develop. If the pressure inside the tank is not released, the tank may split a weld seam or rupture.

Fig 8 - Tank with Bulged Bottom

The following figures are from an actual test conducted expressly to point out the danger of what happens to water pressure when heated a closed system.

| Water Temperature °F   | Tank Pressure P.S.I |
|--|---------------------|
| 74   | 80                  |
| 75   | 85                  |
| 76   | 105                 |
| 78   | 125                 |
| 80   | 145                 |
| <i>T&amp;P actuates about here</i>   |                     |
| 82   | 175                 |
| 85   | 225                 |
| 88   | 275                 |
| 90   | 310                 |
| <i>At this point the tank bottom will start to reverse and eventually break a weld and leak.</i> |                     |
| 95   | 400                 |
| 100  | 520                 |

Table 2 - Pressure build up in a Closed System

Rheem water heater tanks are manufactured and tested to withstand a test pressure of 300 PSI and a working pressure of 150 PSI. A bulged bottom immediately indicates that the tank has been subjected to a pressure in excess of 300 PSI and is not covered by warranty.

## THERMAL EXPANSION

When water is heated it expands. Reacting to physical law, water expands in volume as its temperature rises. In a 40 gallon water heater, water being heated to its thermostat setting will end up expanding to about 40.53 gallons when the desired temperature is reached. The extra volume created by this expansion must go somewhere.

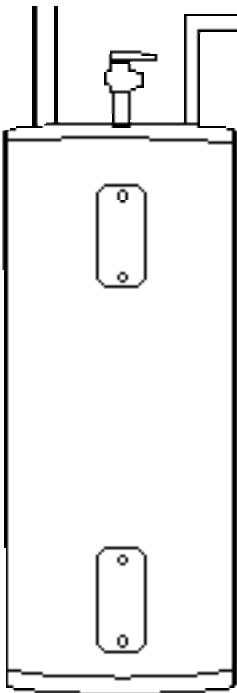
Before the advent of cross connection control, expanded water that exceeded the capacity of the tank flowed back to the city main where it was easily dissipated. It was 'open' at the city side of the supply system. Today, with back flow preventers, water meter check valves and



pressure reducing valves without a bypass being installed, expanded water from a water heater cannot return to the city supply. It is now a 'closed' system and the expanding water has no place to go. Dangerous conditions exist during thermal expansion long before the temperature and pressure relief valve operates. Internal pressures repeatedly occurring during recovery periods can 'stress' the tank causing the tank welds and fitting connections to the tank to weaken.

Remember -

**water + heat + pressure + closed system = potential explosion !**



As a result, the expanding water creates a rapid and dangerous pressure increase in the water heater and system piping inside the residence. Eventually, the combination of temperature, pressure and the closed system will activate the T&P valve. The setting on the safety relief is quickly reached and the relief valve opens, losing heater water down the drain.....or all over the floor. Even though the T&P valve operates during each recovery period, internal high pressures occurring over and over again can accelerate tank leakage and shorten water heater life. A good indication of thermal expansion is when the T&P valve releases about one cup of water for each ten gallons of heater capacity with each heating cycle.

The best solution to thermal expansion is to control the pressure the heated water generates within normal, safe operating range, well below the emergency setting of a T&P valve. This will allow thermal expansion to occur, but without causing a dangerous increase in pressure. This is accomplished by adding an expansion tank. As the water temperature increases, the expanded water is received by the expansion tank. As the temperature and pressure reaches its maximum, the diaphragm flexes against the air cushion (air is compressible) to allow for increased water expansion. By adding a Rheem THERM-X-GUARD™ thermal expansion tank with a sealed in compressible air cushion, space is provided to store and hold the additional expanded water volume. When the water is heated the expanded volume is consumed by the expansion tank. When hot water is used in the system, the expansion tank returns the water back into the system for use.

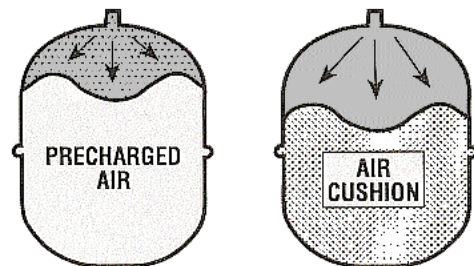


Fig 9 - Thermal Expansion Tanks

*Service Tip: Thermal expansion tank pressure must be 10-15 psi above service pressure. There are sizing issues when selecting the proper expansion tank. Consult the expansion tank manufactures specifications.*

## TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE RELIEF (T&P) VALVES



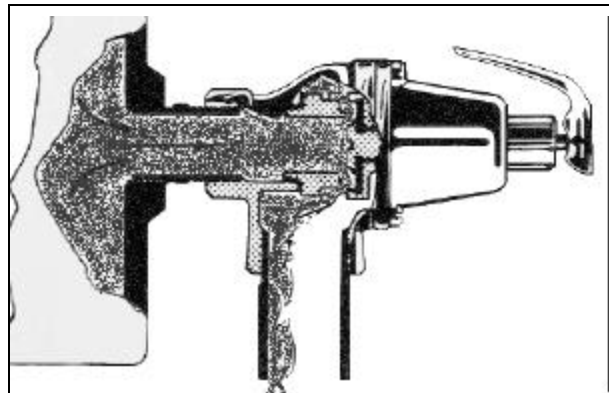
Temperature and Pressure Relief Valves, also called T&P valves, are emergency safety limit devices that will prevent or relieve overheated water and pressure. Without a T&P valve during an unsafe condition, the pressure inside the tank would rise to the point the tank may rupture or explode. This would cause potential damage to both people and property. Rheem water heaters are pressure tested to 300 pounds per square inch (PSI) and have a working pressure of 150 PSI. The T&P valve is designed to open when the pressure inside the tank exceeds 150 PSI, allowing pressure to vent safely. The T&P valve will also open if the water temperature reaches 210° F. The valve will remain open allowing cold water into the tank until the unsafe condition is over.

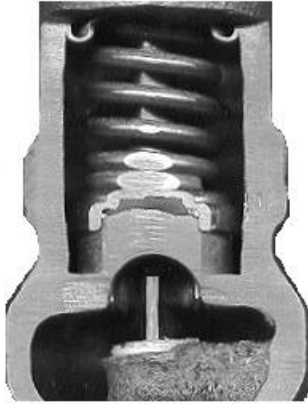
Why is hot water over 212° F dangerous? The containment vessel or storage tank used to store the hot water causes the danger. This tank is under pressure - the normal working pressure caused by the cold water supply. As water is heated under pressure, the boiling point rises. For example, with a nominal incoming supply pressure of 50 PSI, water will not boil under pressure until the temperature reaches approximately 297° F. The energy potential in the super heated water is called latent heat energy and will flash to steam when exposed to normal atmospheric pressure. This flash to steam has the explosive potential of over two million foot-pounds of energy.

*Fig 10 - Temperature & Pressure Relief Valve*

The Temperature and Pressure Relief Valve is the safety device that prevents these conditions from happening. It is a 2-in-1 device that responds to both pressure increases and temperature increases. When actuating by pressure, the T&P valve will open and allow the tanks internal pressure to drop below 150PSI. Generally, when you see a T&P valve weeping or dribbling, it is due to pressure (thermal expansion) or foreign material such as calcium buildup in the valve seat. This material on the valve seat will prevent the valve from closing tightly. If the valve is discharging large quantities of water, then the release is due to temperature. Remember the T&P is installed in the top six inches of the tank. If the temperature probe on the T&P senses water temperatures of 210° F, it will open the valve. The valve will stay open until the temperature probe cools. With cold water entering the bottom area of the tank, you can see a large volume of water (gallons) will be discharged before the temperature probe cools.

T&P valves should be inspected and tested on every service call. When checking the valve, also check the rating plate on the valve. Many changes may take place in a plumbing system after the original installation. Through a systemic reinspection program, we can insure that the safety device is working properly. The





T&P Valve must be capable of discharging more BTUs than the heater is capable of putting into the water.

Installation of a temperature and pressure relief valve is critical to the safe operation of a water heater. The basic rule is that the T&P valve must be installed so that the temperature-sensing probe is immersed in the hottest water - which is in the top six inches of the tank. All water heaters manufactured by Rheem - Ruud have a separate and special connection designed for the T&P valve. When checking the valve also check the rating plate on the valve. The BTU rating of the valve must equal or exceed the BTU rating of the water heater.

Fig 11 - T&P Valve Cutaway View

### Here are some common T&P valve errors

- No T&P installed or pressure only relief valve installed
- Non-code or insufficient rating T&P valve installed
- T&P installed in the cold water line
- T&P installed a distance from the tank, such as in the hot outlet line
- T&P has been altered, repaired, plugged or restricted

### Tips for the Temperature and Pressure Relief drain line

- Run to a safe place of disposal (floor drain or outside)
- Drain piping should be the same size as the valve discharge through its entire length
- Pitch downward from the valve and terminate 6 inches above the floor drain
- No longer than 30 feet. Do not use more than four elbows
- Do not install a shut off valve in the drain line and terminate unthreaded

***Discharge of the T&P indicates the existence of an unsafe temperature or pressure condition.***

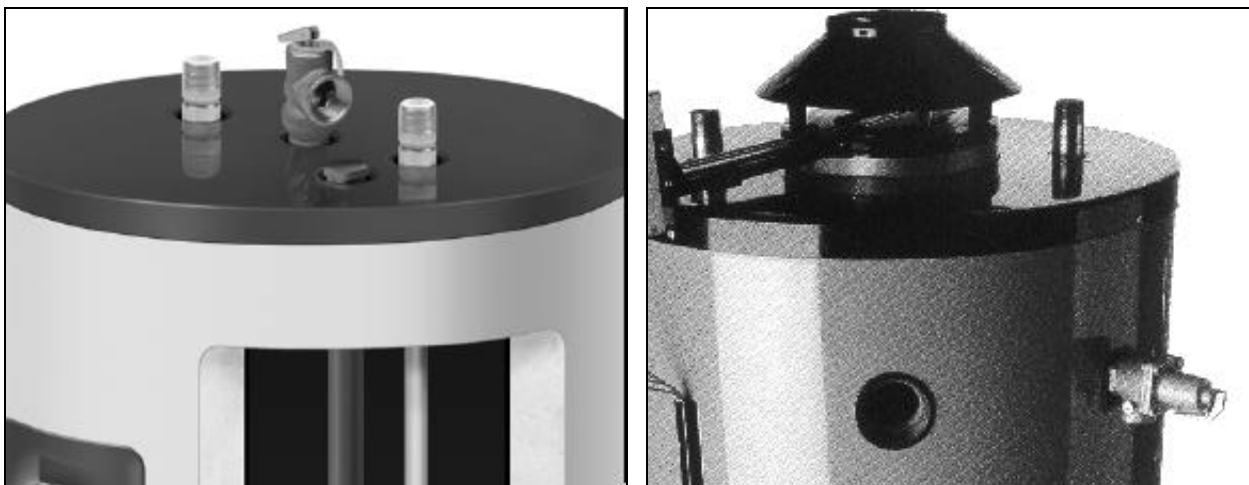


Fig 12 - Proper T&P Valve locations for residential or commercial water heaters

## **PLUMBING CROSS OVER**

A plumbing cross over is a condition whereby cold water is allowed to flow into the hot water system. The plumbing system in a home is divided into two sub-systems, the hot water supply and the cold water supply.

The modern home, or a remodeled older home, will most likely have at least one mixing or single handle type faucet installed. Most homes today have an automatic laundry washing machine. Both of these are examples of appliances and fixtures that have a mixing valve. Any mixing valve can allow a cross-over to occur should they become defective. A defective mixing valve will allow a cross-over of hot and cold water, even though there are no visible signs of trouble or leak.

Plumbing cross overs can cause a complaint such as 'water not hot enough'. Testing the hot plumbing system for a cross over can be accomplished by using the following procedure.

1. Close the cold water shut off valve supplying cold water to the heater.
2. Using a faucet with separate HOT and COLD spigots, open the hot faucet only.
3. With the cold water to the heater shut off, once the pressure is relieved, the water should stop running completely. Should the water continue to flow, but at a slower than normal rate, you have one of two conditions. If the slower flow continues but stays HOT, the cold water shut off valve is defective and the test will not be valid. Replace the cold water shut off valve and continue the test. If the water turns COLD, you have cold water crossing over to the hot water plumbing system.
4. To locate the cross-over, first shut off the hose bibb (service valves) to the laundry washer. If the water stops flowing at your hot faucet, the washing machine mixing valve is causing the cross-over.
5. If the flow does not stop, then you must check, by feel, each of the feed lines to each of the single handle faucets. If you find one faucet where both feed lines are equally cold, that faucet is allowing an internal cross-over to occur and should be rebuilt or replaced.
6. If none of the above resolve the cross-over, a direct cross-over exists in the plumbing somewhere. This means the hot water sub-system and the cold water sub-system are directly tied together after the water heater.

When performing this test in a home that has only mixing (single spigot) faucets, the test must be done twice. Each test must be done using a different faucet. The faucet used for the first test may be causing the problem and should be tested in the off position.

In a house with all double handle faucets, you may find a shower head with a built in shut off (shut off valve is connected directly to the shower head). If the user shuts the shower head valve off but leaves the double handle tub facets open, this would allow a direct cross-over to occur.

## HOT WATER AVAILABILITY AND CONSUMPTION FACTORS

Before studying methods of computing recovery capacities of water heaters we should understand the meaning of several commonly used terms.



### Recovery Capacity

The maximum amount of water that can be heated by a water heater through a given temperature rise in a given amount of time.

Recovery capacity is usually expressed in terms of gallons per hour (GPH) at 100° F temperature rise. Generally, the higher the BTU or wattage input rate, the faster the recovery rate is. Recovery rates are also a component of the First Hour Rating.

### First Hour Rating

The calculated amount of hot water a fully heated water heater can deliver in the first hour period. The output on a water heater is normally given in gallons per hour at a 100°F temperature rise. It is the quantity of water that the heater will deliver at 140°F, when the cold start temperature is 40°F. *This does not mean the water heater will provide hot water for 60 continuous minutes.* This quantity of hot water is based on initial storage plus the ability to heat water as it is being drawn. The temperature of this water must be within 10° F of the thermostat setting to be considered usable.

### Input

The amount of fuel (electricity) consumed by a water heater in a given period of time. It is usually expressed in terms of British Thermal Units per hour (BTUH) or Kilowatt hours (KWH).

### Hot Water Demand

The total volume of hot water, in gallons, required during a peak load or maximum usage period of time. The peak load may vary from a few minutes to a few hours depending on the user.

### Draw Rate

The rate at which water is drawn from a water heating system, usually expressed in gallons per minute (GPM). In residential applications, this is usually restricted to a single delivery point such as a shower head.

### Stand by heat loss

Natural migration of heat from the inner tank to the atmosphere. Insulation technology and insulation thickness significantly reduce stand by heat loss.

### BTU - British Thermal Unit

The amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit. Since one gallon of water weighs 8.33 pounds, it would require 8.33 BTU to raise one gallon of water one degree Fahrenheit. The exact amount of fuel that the water must utilize

in order to actually transfer the 8.33 BTU into the water is determined by the efficiency of the water heater in question. Electric water heaters are considered to be 95% efficient; that is 95% of the energy is transferred as heat into the water. Therefore, we can divide the standard BTU by the efficiency rating of the water heater to determine actual amount of BTU (energy). The formula would look like this:

$$\frac{8.33}{.95} = 8.77 \text{ BTU}$$

**Cold Inlet Temperature**

The temperature of outside water coming into a water heating system. Throughout most of the U.S. this temperature is considered to be 40°F. (during the coldest months).

**Peak Period**

Peak period refers to the time during the day when the water heating system experiences its greatest draw (demand). With the exception of applications that require continuous hot water draw, tests have shown that the peak period of hot water usage will occur once or twice a day in residential applications. Peak periods for commercial applications are dramatically different. By contrast, a peak period in a school gymnasium shower may occur ever hour!

**Temperature Rise**

The difference in temperature between the desired hot water and the incoming cold water, expressed in degrees Fahrenheit. For example, the desired temperature at the faucet is 120° F and the incoming cold water is 70° F. The required temperature rise is 50° F (120° - 70° = 50°). Temperature rise is the number of degrees Fahrenheit that the water must be raised either from the inlet water temperature or a pre-heat water temperature. In short, the temperature rise is the difference between existing water temperature and desired water temperature.

Another factor in proper sizing is recovery time. A smaller gallon capacity heater with a high recovery time (heats water faster) may prove as effective as a larger capacity heater with a nominal recovery time.

**N O T E S**

---

---

---

---

---

| Water Heater<br>Gallons | Gallons of hot<br>water available<br>at 120 degrees | *Gallons avail-<br>able within 10<br>degrees of<br>thermostat | Shower Time Available |                             |                                 |
|-------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                         |   |   | Based of<br>3 GPM     | gallons per minute<br>6 GPM | flow of shower<br>head<br>9 GPM |
| 30                      | 21  | 27  | 9                     | 4 1/2                       | 3                               |
| 40                      | 28  | 36  | 12                    | 6                           | 4                               |
| 50                      | 35  | 45  | 15                    | 7 1/2                       | 5                               |
| 66                      | 46  | 59  | 20                    | 10                          | 6 2/3                           |
| 80                      | 56  | 72  | 24                    | 12                          | 8                               |
| 120                     | 84  | 108   | 36                    | 18                          | 12                              |

*Table 3 - Shower Time Available*

\* gallons available is initially slightly higher than the 70% rule due to the heating action of the heating elements during usage. Eventually demand will consume the hot water faster than the elements can heat.

The chart above shows the actual amount of hot water available at 40 PSI system pressure during the first hour of delivery and what that amount means in terms of shower time. A higher system pressure will reduce shower time.

A common problem is the complaint of ‘not enough hot water’. Earlier in this manual there was some diagnostics for mechanical failures that can cause this problem. As you can see, the source of the problem may not be mechanical; it may be consumption. Demand rate may also be another source of problem. For example, a shower head distributing 9 gallons per minute (GPM) will have less shower time than a shower head with 3 gallons per minute. The lower the GPM, the more hot water available.

## **DRAW TEST AND FLOW RATES**

### Testing show head flow rate

Flow rate is simply the gallons per minute (GPM) of water a faucet will allow at full force. Flow rate of a shower head or other faucet fixture is important in determining the consumption patterns of a user. Using a bucket and a watch with a second hand, draw cold shower water at full volume for 15 seconds. Using the draw test table and a quart measure, determine the number of quarts drawn in the 15 second period.

For example, a homeowner has a 40 gallon water heater set to 120° F. That will allow approximately 36 gallons of hot shower water at 110°. If the homeowner has a conservative flow rate of 3 GPM, the shower will last 12 minutes. If the homeowner has a wasteful flow

rate of 9 GPM, the shower will last 4 minutes. Very often the homeowner will complain of NOT ENOUGH HOT WATER, and blame the water heater. Actually, the water heater is fine — the homeowner has a wasteful consumption pattern and possibly an undersized water heater.

| NUMBER OF QUARTS<br>IN 15 SECONDS |              | GALLONS PER MINUTE<br>FLOW (GPM) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 1                                 |              | 1                                |
| 2                                 | Conservative | 2                                |
| 3                                 |              | 3                                |
| 4                                 |              | 4                                |
| 5                                 | Moderate     | 5                                |
| 6                                 |              | 6                                |
| 7                                 |              | 7                                |
| 8                                 |              | 8                                |
| 9                                 | Wasteful     | 9                                |
| 10                                |              | 10                               |

Table 4 - Draw Test and Flow Rates

### FIRST HOUR DELIVERY

First Hour Delivery (or sometimes called first hour rating) is a term that describes the performance capability of the water heater. By definition, first hour delivery is the calculated amount of hot water a fully heated water heater can deliver in the first hour period. This means you start with a water heater that has recovered to its thermostat setting (fully heated) and someone starts to use hot water such as in a shower. It does not mean the hot water will last for one full hour.

The Federal Government requires manufacturers to put a yellow ENERGYGUIDE label on a residential water heater. This label shows the first hour rating for the product.



A residential water heater will deliver 70% of tank capacity at the thermostat setting minus 20 degrees. What does this mean? If the thermostat is set on 120 degrees, the unit should deliver 70% of tank volume at a temperature between 100 degrees and 120 degrees.

What does 70% of tank capacity mean? It means 70% of the gallons capacity listed on the rating plate. For example:

| Tank capacity in gallons | 70% rule in gallons |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 30                       | 21                  |
| 40                       | 28                  |
| 50                       | 35                  |
| 65                       | 45 1/2              |
| 75                       | 52 1/2              |
| 80                       | 56                  |



Why only 70% of the tank capacity? Simple, cold water is entering the heater as the hot water is being used. This cold water mixes with the hot water in the tank. Much the same as cooling off a hot beverage with a little cold water, the water heater works on the same principle.

As a hot water faucet is turned on, the dip tube, attached on the cold water inlet side of the heater, delivers the cold water to the bottom of the tank. The pressure of the incoming cold water pushes the hot water out of the tank. Once enough cold water has entered the tank and mixed with the hot water, this will cause the water to turn warm, then tepid, then cold. This is how we calculate the 70% rule. Once you have used the 70% of available hot water, the water will quickly become cold.

As hot water is being used, the thermostat(s) on the heater will demand heat and the unit will start to recover. This means it will heat water, even while hot water is being used. The recovery capabilities of a water heater are standard characteristics and are factored in with the 70% rule to determine first hour delivery. To determine the 'ballpark' first hour delivery use the following formula:

$$(\text{tank capacity}) \times .70 + (\text{recovery}) = \text{first hour delivery}$$

For instance: You have a 40 gallon, 40,000 BTU gas water heater -

$$40 \times .7 + 36 = 64 \text{ gallons first hour delivery}$$

You can find the recovery rate in gallons per hour for your heater in the following charts. Check the rating plate of your water heater for the input in watts (electrical) or BTUs (gas).

**Water Heater Recovery Rates in Gallons per Hour**

| Input KW | BTUs   | Degrees F Rise |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |      |
|----------|--------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|
|          |        | 40°            | 50° | 60° | 70° | 80° | 90° | 100° | 110° | 120° |
| 1,000    | 3,413  | 10             | 8   | 7   | 6   | 5   | 5   | 4    | 4    | 3    |
| 1,500    | 5,120  | 16             | 12  | 10  | 9   | 8   | 7   | 6    | 6    | 5    |
| 2,000    | 6,826  | 21             | 17  | 14  | 12  | 10  | 9   | 8    | 8    | 7    |
| 2,500    | 8,533  | 26             | 21  | 17  | 15  | 13  | 12  | 10   | 10   | 9    |
| 3,000    | 10,239 | 31             | 25  | 21  | 18  | 16  | 14  | 12   | 11   | 10   |
| 3,500    | 11,946 | 36             | 29  | 24  | 21  | 18  | 16  | 15   | 13   | 12   |
| 4,000    | 13,652 | 41             | 33  | 28  | 24  | 21  | 18  | 17   | 15   | 14   |
| 4,500    | 15,359 | 47             | 37  | 31  | 27  | 23  | 21  | 19   | 17   | 16   |
| 5,000    | 17,065 | 52             | 41  | 34  | 30  | 26  | 23  | 21   | 19   | 17   |
| 5,500    | 18,722 | 57             | 46  | 38  | 33  | 28  | 25  | 23   | 21   | 19   |
| 6,000    | 20,478 | 62             | 49  | 41  | 35  | 31  | 27  | 25   | 22   | 21   |
| 9,000    | 30,717 | 92             | 74  | 61  | 53  | 46  | 41  | 37   | 34   | 31   |
| 12,000   | 40,956 | 123            | 98  | 82  | 70  | 61  | 55  | 49   | 45   | 41   |

Table 5 - Water Heater Recovery Rates in Gallons per Hour

## SIZING OF A RESIDENTIAL WATER HEATER

Like any household appliance, the water heater has a very specific job to perform and it must do its job to the homeowner's complete satisfaction 24 hours a day, every day, for years and years. Water heating requirements for the home have increased steadily. As a result, the last water heater purchased by the homeowner now may be too small to satisfy household needs. In addition, rising energy costs have become a concern. Operating costs now can be just as important in making the buying decision as the initial price of the new water heater itself!

How many family members will routinely take a shower in any given hour. For instance, if all four of the children take a shower between 7 - 8 PM daily to get ready for bed, you may have a high usage demand. If both parents take their showers in the morning, Mom gets a load of clothes in the washing machine and turns the dish washer on before everyone leaves for school and work, you may have a high usage demand. Focus on the customer's usage pattern and consumption factors.

Peak Hour Demand is the key. Peak hour demand is the busiest one-hour usage period. This may be in the morning, evening or some other time during the day. Accurate calculation of the demand is essential to proper water heater sizing. Look at the following sample of a typical peak hour demand for this family of three.

| Household Activity            | Avg Gallons<br>per activity | Times per<br>hour | Total Hot<br>Water used |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Shower or bath                | 20                          | 3                 | 60                      |
| Shave                         | 2                           | 1                 | 2                       |
| Washing hands or face         | 4                           |                   |                         |
| Shampoo hair                  | 4                           | 1                 | 4                       |
| Washing dishes by hand        | 4                           | 1                 | 4                       |
| Automatic dishwasher          | 14                          |                   |                         |
| Food preparation for a meal   | 5                           |                   |                         |
| Automatic clothes washer      | 32                          |                   |                         |
| <b>Total Peak Hour Demand</b> |                             |                   | <b>70 gallons</b>       |

*Table 6 - Sample Peak Hour Demand Calculation*

After you have calculated the actual peak hour demand load, you can use a make and model chart to choose the correct water heater within +/- 2 gallons capacity. When selecting the proper size look for the 'first hour rating' on the model chart. The 'first hour rating' is a function of the initial storage capacity plus the ability of the water heater to heat while in use. In the example above, you would select a Rheem residential electric water heater with a 65 gallon storage capacity. Use the table below to calculate the Peak Hour Demand.

| <b>Household Activity</b>   | <b>Avg Gallons per activity</b> | <b>Times per hour</b> | <b>Total Hot Water used</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shower or bath              | 20                              |                       |                             |
| Shave                       | 2                               |                       |                             |
| Washing hands or face       | 4                               |                       |                             |
| Shampoo hair                | 4                               |                       |                             |
| Washing dishes by hand      | 4                               |                       |                             |
| Automatic dishwasher        | 14                              |                       |                             |
| Food preparation for a meal | 5                               |                       |                             |
| Automatic clothes washer    | 32                              |                       |                             |

***Total Peak Hour Demand*** \_\_\_\_\_ **gallons**

*Table 7 - Peak Hour Demand Calculation Blank Worksheet*

- Investigate the owners pattern of hot water usage. Some sample questions may include:
- Number of people in the family; kids, teenagers
  - How many bathrooms, garden tub or hot tub
  - Automatic dishwasher
  - Clothes washer
  - Frequent visitors or family guests
  - Recent remodeling involving hot water appliances

## **ENERGY FACTOR**

Energy Factor is a relative number that is a standard measure for storage water heating products. It is determined through a Department of Energy (DOE) standard test procedure. This procedure involves a water heater that is put through a 24 hour simulated use test. The simulated use test is used by all water heater manufacturers. All of the test procedures are mandated by the DOE. Test procedures include the length of the test; the thermostat setting; the water temperature of the cold water delivered into the water heater; and the quantity of hot water drawn from the heater during the 24 hours of testing.

The final number is displayed in a decimal equivalent. It is not meant to be a percentage. This number, called the Energy Factor (EF) represents the efficiency of the water heater. The higher the EF, the more efficient the unit. The Energy Factor represents two major conditions when determining water heater efficiency:

- How efficiently the unit uses fuel (gas or electric)
- How efficiently the unit retains heat during 'stand-by'

### **How useful is the Energy Factor?**

The EF aids the consumer in making comparison shopping easier. When shopping for a new water heater, the consumer can compare the EF rating of the unit against like units. 'Like units' is not a relative term. When comparing the EF, consumers must compare water heaters with the same fuel source, gas or electric, and the same water storage capacity. Comparing the EF between a natural gas unit and an electric unit is not comparison shopping. Comparing 50 gallon electric units to each other is comparison shopping.

## **VACATIONS AND LONG TERM IDLE TIME**

If the water heater is to remain idle for an extended period of time (such as a week long vacation), the power and the water to the water heater should be turned off to conserve energy. Water heaters that have been idle for a long time are a safety hazard.

Hydrogen gas can be produced in a hot water system that has not been used for a long period of time (generally two weeks or more). Hydrogen gas is extremely flammable! To dissipate hydrogen gas from a heater, it is recommended that the hot water faucet be opened for several minutes at the kitchen sink before using any electrical appliance connected to the hot water system. If hydrogen gas is present, there will probably be an unusual noise such as air escaping through the pipe as the water begins to flow. Do not smoke or use an open flame near the faucet at the time it is open.

## **SUBMERGED WATER HEATERS**

If your water heater(s), gas or electric, has been submerged in water, **DO NOT ATTEMPT** to repair, install, or operate the product. Due to the conductivity of water along with its corrosive properties all the operational controls are rendered unsafe. As for the insulation properties of the product, it would have become saturated with water which cannot be removed resulting in exterior corrosion and failure of the product.

The affected water heater(s) should be removed, made unusable, and, replaced with a new unit. As a further note, warranties on our products will not be applied when the product has been damaged, among other things, by flood. Any claims made will be declined if it is determined the cause of failure is the product being damaged as a result of flood.

### **INSTALLATION - SERIES AND PARALLEL**

The installation drawings in this section are typical. Check local code requirements for vacuum breaker devices and cold water inlet check valves. ***If you install a check valve in any of these systems, you must install a thermal expansion tank.***

The majority of commercial water heater installations involve the delivery of water at one temperature only. The exceptions, or two temperature systems, are restaurants, convalescent homes and special process applications. In most of these general purpose applications, the water heater thermostats are adjusted to deliver water at a temperature ranging from 130° F to 150° F. The simplest of the single temperature systems is one using a single, free standing water heater. This design uses an automatic storage (tank type) water heater and is piped directly with a cold in and hot out. The heated water is delivered directly to its point of use and is mixed at the sink, tub or faucet.

In many cases a single water heater may not have enough capacity to handle the hot water demand. In this case, two or more heaters can be piped together in a piping arrangement called manifolding. Manifolding multiple heaters or a heater with storage tanks will increase the quantity of hot water available or will allow for dual delivery temperature requirements. The only aspect of the heater that will make the unit heat water faster is the BTU input rating.

The second method of installation is to manifold more than one water heater or storage tank in series or parallel. Manifold means to pipe together with several apertures that make multiple connections. That is what manifolding is all about. With commercial water heaters, you may manifold one heater to two or more storage tanks; or you may manifold two, three or four water heaters together. There are two methods of manifold installation: series and parallel.

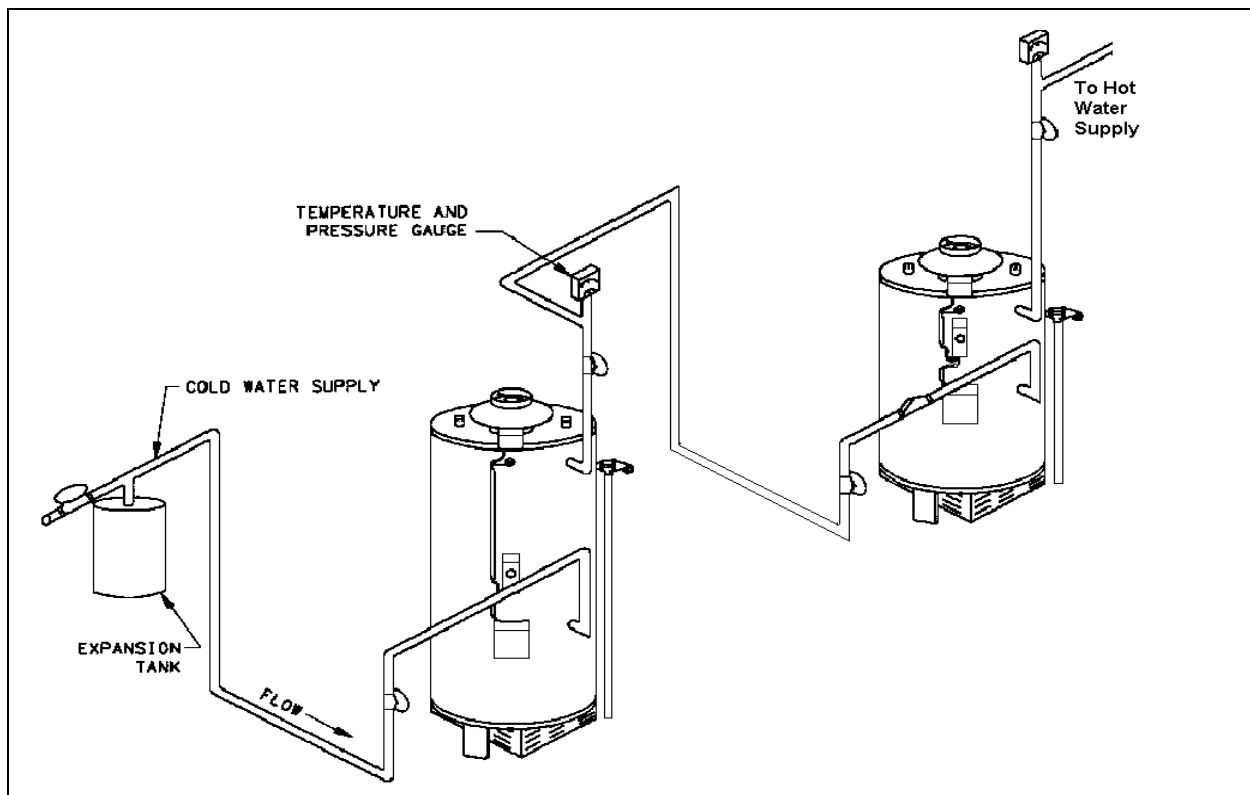
## SERIES INSTALLATION

Series installation uses heaters that are not identical in both BTU input and storage capacity. An example might be when a commercial business expands or adds on a facility that will require additional hot water. The existing system will not handle the demand and a new water heater must be installed. The new heater is not identical to the existing heater. In this example, series installation may be appropriate. When installing water heaters in series, the heater with the largest BTU input should be the first heater in the series, at the cold water inlet side of the system.

Series installation draws hot water from one tank at a time. As hot water is drawn, it is taken from the last heater in the series. For every gallon of hot water drawn, preheated water is introduced into the last heater in the series and cold water is introduced into the first heater in the series. In a series configuration, the first heater, piped to the cold water inlet, will do the majority of the work. The second (or remainder) heaters will not work as hard because they receive preheated water, not cold water. The last heater in the series will do very little work.

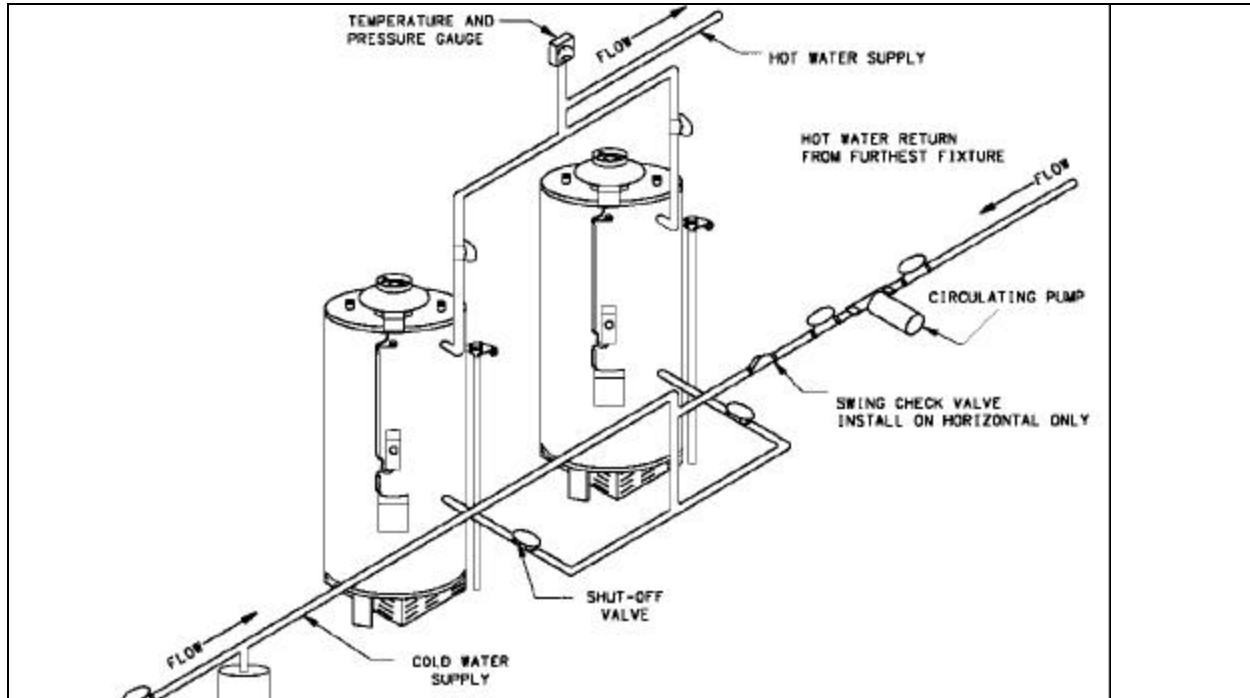
In the example, the commercial installation shows a series system with a booster heater. The larger tank type heater is supplying the 120° to 140° hot water demands to sinks and lavatories. The booster heater is supplying hot water to a dishwasher that requires 180° water for the sanitizing rinse. If the dishwasher consumes less than the recovery capability of the booster heater, the booster heater is considered to be an 'instantaneous' heater.

Fig 13 - Series Installation



## PARALLEL INSTALLATION

Parallel installation uses heaters that are identical in both BTU input and storage capacity. Normally, parallel installation is used when there is a demand for large quantities of hot water over a shorter period of time. Equipment being equal, two or more heaters connected in parallel will deliver more hot water than the same heaters connected in series. In a parallel configuration, the hot water demand is taken equally from each unit. For every gallon of hot water drawn from each unit, one gallon of cold water is introduced into the water heater. Each heater will then perform the same amount of work to heat the cold water.



*Fig 14 - Parallel Installation*

Another important point of parallel installation is the length of the supply piping and delivery piping - they must all be the same length. Because the water pressure is constant along the cold inlet piping and hot water supply piping, the heater with the closest 'run' will do the majority of the work. When installing heaters and storage tanks in parallel, it is important to accurately plan and measure the distances from the cold water supply pipe to the heaters and from the hot water outlet on the heater to the hot water supply line. This will equalize the work between the two water heaters.

Storage tanks are another option using parallel installation. One heater is used to heat the water to thermostat temperature. The heated water is stored in two storage tanks piped in parallel. As the water is consumed at its point of use, it is drawn equally from the two storage tanks and replaced with heated water from the heater. This setup is generally used when there is a large quantity of hot water drawn in a single use. When a single heater is used with multiple storage tanks, you will experience a longer recovery time.

## PERCENTAGE OF HOT AND COLD WATER MIX

Many consumers do not realize how much hot water they are using in a given draw. This chart shows the percentage of hot water used given the thermostat setting, the cold water inlet temperature, and the temperature of the hot water. For example: A water heater with a thermostat setting of 120° F and the cold water inlet temperature is 50° F and the shower temperature is 110° F would use 86% HOT water and 14% COLD water.

|                   |             |                          |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>120°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 105° | 110° | 115° | 120° |      |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 75%                      | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 45°         | 73%                      | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 50°         | 75%                      | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 55°         | 73%                      | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 60°         | 75%                      | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 65°         | 73%                      | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 70°         | 75%                      | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |      |
|                   | 75°         | 73%                      | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |      |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>125°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 105° | 110° | 115° | 120° | 125° |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 71%                      | 76%  | 82%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 45°         | 69%                      | 75%  | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 50°         | 67%                      | 73%  | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 55°         | 64%                      | 71%  | 79%  | 86%  | 93%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 60°         | 62%                      | 69%  | 77%  | 85%  | 92%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 65°         | 58%                      | 67%  | 75%  | 83%  | 92%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 70°         | 55%                      | 64%  | 73%  | 82%  | 91%  | 100% |      |
|                   | 75°         | 50%                      | 60%  | 70%  | 80%  | 90%  | 100% |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>130°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 105° | 110° | 115° | 120° | 125° | 130° |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 67%                      | 72%  | 78%  | 83%  | 89%  | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 45°         | 65%                      | 71%  | 76%  | 82%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 50°         | 63%                      | 69%  | 75%  | 81%  | 88%  | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 55°         | 60%                      | 67%  | 73%  | 80%  | 87%  | 93%  | 100% |
|                   | 60°         | 57%                      | 64%  | 71%  | 79%  | 86%  | 93%  | 100% |
|                   | 65°         | 54%                      | 62%  | 69%  | 77%  | 85%  | 92%  | 100% |
|                   | 70°         | 50%                      | 58%  | 67%  | 75%  | 83%  | 92%  | 100% |
|                   | 75°         | 45%                      | 55%  | 64%  | 73%  | 82%  | 91%  | 100% |

Table 8 - Percentage of Hot and Cold Water Mix



|                   |             |                          |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------------|------|------|
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>135°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 105° | 110° | 115° | 120° | 125° | 130°                               | 135° |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 63%                      | 68%  | 74%  | 79%  | 84%  | 89%  | 95%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 45°         | 61%                      | 67%  | 72%  | 78%  | 83%  | 89%  | 94%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 50°         | 59%                      | 65%  | 71%  | 76%  | 82%  | 88%  | 94%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 55°         | 56%                      | 63%  | 69%  | 75%  | 81%  | 88%  | 94%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 60°         | 53%                      | 60%  | 67%  | 73%  | 80%  | 87%  | 93%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 65°         | 50%                      | 57%  | 64%  | 71%  | 79%  | 86%  | 93%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 70°         | 46%                      | 54%  | 62%  | 69%  | 77%  | 85%  | 92%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 75°         | 42%                      | 50%  | 58%  | 67%  | 75%  | 83%  | 92%                                | 100% |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>140°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 105° | 110° | 115° | 120° | 125° | 130°                               | 135° | 140° |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 60%                      | 65%  | 70%  | 75%  | 80%  | 85%  | 90%                                | 95%  | 100% |
|                   | 45°         | 58%                      | 63%  | 68%  | 74%  | 79%  | 84%  | 89%                                | 95%  | 100% |
|                   | 50°         | 56%                      | 61%  | 67%  | 72%  | 78%  | 83%  | 89%                                | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 55°         | 53%                      | 59%  | 65%  | 71%  | 76%  | 82%  | 88%                                | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 60°         | 50%                      | 56%  | 63%  | 69%  | 75%  | 81%  | 88%                                | 94%  | 100% |
|                   | 65°         | 47%                      | 53%  | 60%  | 67%  | 73%  | 80%  | 87%                                | 93%  | 100% |
|                   | 70°         | 43%                      | 50%  | 57%  | 64%  | 71%  | 79%  | 86%                                | 93%  | 100% |
|                   | 75°         | 38%                      | 46%  | 54%  | 62%  | 69%  | 77%  | 85%                                | 92%  | 100% |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>150°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      | <b>Commercial<br/>Temperatures</b> |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 110° | 120° | 130° | 140° | 150° |                                    |      |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 55%                      | 64%  | 73%  | 82%  | 91%  | 100% |                                    |      |      |
|                   | 50°         | 50%                      | 60%  | 70%  | 80%  | 90%  | 100% |                                    |      |      |
|                   | 60°         | 44%                      | 56%  | 67%  | 78%  | 89%  | 100% |                                    |      |      |
|                   | 70°         | 38%                      | 50%  | 63%  | 75%  | 88%  | 100% |                                    |      |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>160°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 110° | 120° | 130° | 140° | 150° | 160°                               |      |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 50%                      | 58%  | 67%  | 75%  | 83%  | 92%  | 100%                               |      |      |
|                   | 50°         | 45%                      | 55%  | 64%  | 73%  | 82%  | 91%  | 100%                               |      |      |
|                   | 60°         | 40%                      | 50%  | 60%  | 70%  | 80%  | 90%  | 100%                               |      |      |
|                   | 70°         | 33%                      | 44%  | 56%  | 67%  | 78%  | 89%  | 100%                               |      |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>170°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 110° | 120° | 130° | 140° | 150° | 160°                               | 170° |      |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 46%                      | 54%  | 62%  | 69%  | 77%  | 85%  | 92%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 50°         | 42%                      | 50%  | 63%  | 67%  | 75%  | 83%  | 92%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 60°         | 36%                      | 45%  | 59%  | 64%  | 73%  | 82%  | 91%                                | 100% |      |
|                   | 70°         | 30%                      | 40%  | 55%  | 60%  | 70%  | 80%  | 90%                                | 100% |      |
| <b>Thermostat</b> | <b>180°</b> | <b>Mixed Temperature</b> |      |      |      |      |      |                                    |      |      |
|                   |             | 100°                     | 110° | 120° | 130° | 140° | 150° | 160°                               | 170° | 180° |
| <b>Cold Inlet</b> | 40°         | 43%                      | 50%  | 57%  | 64%  | 71%  | 79%  | 86%                                | 93%  | 100% |
|                   | 50°         | 38%                      | 46%  | 52%  | 62%  | 69%  | 77%  | 85%                                | 92%  | 100% |
|                   | 60°         | 33%                      | 42%  | 48%  | 58%  | 67%  | 75%  | 83%                                | 92%  | 100% |
|                   | 70°         | 27%                      | 36%  | 43%  | 55%  | 64%  | 73%  | 82%                                | 91%  | 100% |

## FORMULAS AND FACTS

1 gallon of water weighs 8.33 lbs

1 gallon of water has a volume of 231 cubic inches

1 cubic foot of water weighs 62.38 lbs and contains 7.48 gallons of water

100 feet of 3/4" copper pipe contains 2.5 gallons of water; 1" pipe contains 4.3 gallons

8.33 BTU will raise 1 gal of water 1°F at 100% efficiency (electricity)

11 BTUs are required to raise 1 gallon of water 1°F at 70% efficiency (gas)

3,412 BTU equals 1 kilowatt hour (Kwhr)

1 Kwhr will raise 410 gallons of water 1°F at 100% efficiency

1 BTU X 0.293 = watts

1 KW = 1000 watts

2.42 watts are required to raise 1 gallon of water 1°F

1 Kwhr will raise 10.25 gal of water 40 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 6.8 gal of water 60 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 5.1 gal of water 80 degrees F at 100% efficiency

1 Kwhr will raise 4.1 gal of water 100 degrees F at 100% efficiency

### Formula for mixing hot water

M-C

H-C = Percent of hot water required to produce desired mixed temperature.

Where M = mixed water temperature; C = cold water temperature; H = hot water temperature

For example: How much of a shower is hot water and how much is cold water? My shower temperature is 105° F, my water heater thermostat is set on 120° F and the cold water inlet temperature is 50° F.

$$\frac{105 - 50}{120 - 50} = \frac{55}{70}$$

$\frac{55}{70} = 79\%$  of the shower is 120° hot water This formula for mixing hot water is important when explaining a NOT ENOUGH HOT WATER trouble call and the water heater is functioning properly.

**Fahrenheit to Centigrade**

$$(^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) * .556$$

For example: Convert my water heater thermostat setting of 120° F to Celsius

$$\begin{aligned} &(120^{\circ} - 32) * .556 \\ &(88) * .556 \\ &49^{\circ} \text{ C} \end{aligned}$$

**Centigrade to Fahrenheit**

$$(^{\circ}\text{C} * 1.8) + 32$$

For example: Convert the outside temperature of 49° C to Fahrenheit

$$\begin{aligned} &(49^{\circ} * 1.8) + 32 \\ &(88.2) + 32 \\ &120^{\circ} \text{ F} \end{aligned}$$

**Electric**

**Gas**

**Energy Costs:**

$$\text{Kwhr} \times \text{fuel costs} = \text{energy costs}$$

**Energy Costs:**

$$\text{Cubic feet} \times \text{fuel costs} = \text{energy costs}$$

If I use 100 kilowatt hours of electricity, how much will it cost if each kilowatt hour costs \$.05?

If I use 100 cubic feet of gas, how much will it cost if each cubic foot costs \$.075?

$$100 \times .05 = \$5.00$$

$$100 \times .075 = \$7.50$$

**Electric**

**Gas**

**To obtain gallons per hour (GPH) recovery**

**To obtain gallons per hour (GPH) recovery**

WATTS

$$2.42 \times (\text{temp rise } ^{\circ} \text{ F})$$

HOURLY INPUT (BTUs)

$$11.0 \times (\text{temp rise } ^{\circ} \text{ F})$$

I have a 30 gallon electric heater, non-simultaneous operation, 4500 watt elements. What is the recover GPH if my cold water is 40° F and my thermostat is set to 120° F?

I have a 30 gallon gas heater rated at 40,000 BTUs. What is the recover GPH if my cold water is 40° F and my thermostat is 120° F?

$$\frac{4500}{2.42 \times 80} = 23 \text{ gallons per hour}$$

$$\frac{40,000}{11.0 \times 80} = 45 \text{ gallons per hour}$$



## GLOSSARY

### Aerated Pilot

Pilots which inject primary air through an air intake opening and mix the air and gas before burning.

### A.G.A. (American Gas Association)

The association which governs the testing and certification to the ANSI Z21.10.1 standards of residential natural and LP gas fired water heaters. AGA is funded primarily from the gas utilities and their mission is to support these utilities and manufacturers in the promotion of gas, and gas consuming appliances. With the exception of the mobile home direct vent model which is U.L. certified, all residential gas water heaters are AGA certified.

### Air Shutter

Means by which the size of the primary air opening may be varied to control the amount of primary air intake.

### Alternating Current (A.C.)

Electrical supply in which the polarity of the hot wire (whether wire is positive or negative) reverses rapidly. A.C. is the normal electrical supply in all parts of the United States.

### Ambient Temperature

The ambient temperature is the average temperature of the atmosphere in the vicinity of the appliance. Performance of water heaters is generally checked with reference to ambient temperature rather than a fixed temperature, to allow for a statement of performance which will hold true for summer and winter performance.

### AMP or AMPERE (amp)

A measure of flow of electric current. An electrical circuit or electrical wiring is designed to take a certain maximum current load, and this should not be exceeded. The amps flowing through an appliance are calculated by dividing the watts loading by the voltage.

### Anode

The positive electrode of an electrical cell is called the cathode. An anode may be in the form of an expendable electrode used to reduce or prevent corrosion (see under "galvanic action") or as a source of material in electroplating.

### Annual Cost of Operation

An estimate of the yearly operating cost for residential gas and electric water heaters. The U.S. averages for gas and electric fuel rates are provided yearly by the Department of Energy and this information is used to compute the yearly operating cost data which appears on the Energy Guide label.

### Anode Rod

The active metal within a steel glass lined tank which sacrifices itself in order to prevent any

exposed steel ("cathode") from corrosion. The patented "R-Tech" anode rod used by Rheem is made of magnesium and is designed to last longer, and offer greater tank protection than those used by other manufacturers.

#### ANSI Z21.10.1 (American National Standards Institute)

The testing and safety standards which govern all residential gas fired water heaters up to 100 gallon capacity and up to 75,000 BTU's.

#### Anti-Siphon Hole

A small hole located in the dip tube approximately six inches from the top. The anti-siphon hole is designed to prevent the siphoning of water through the cold water line in the event of a reverse water flow or siphon condition.

#### ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers)

An association which recommends standards and test methods used today, primarily for commercial water heaters. Prior to the NAECA law which now governs residential water heaters, the ASHRAE Standard 90A-1980 was used as a standard for high efficiency water heaters. While no longer applicable, residential water heaters continue to meet this standard.

#### ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)

May be required on commercial water heaters over 120 gallons or over 200,000 BTUs. The ASME code is generally adopted on a state by state basis.

#### Automatic Storage Commercial Heater

A water heater that heats and stores water within the appliance at a thermostatically controlled temperature for delivery on demand, and which has an input rating of less than 4,000 BTU per hour per gallon of stored water. Input rating is above 75,000 BTUH.

#### Backflow Device - Backflow Preventer

A device (valve) which allows water to flow in only one direction. In order to comply with the provisions of the Safe Water Drinking Act, Municipal Water Systems or local plumbing codes may require these devices to be installed in the cold water inlet line to prevent water from backing up into the central main. Backflow devices cause a closed-loop system which can become a potentially dangerous situation due to the effects of thermal expansion. (See: Check-valve, thermal expansion, expansion tank)

#### Boiling Point

The boiling point refers to the temperature at which a liquid changes to vapor by the addition of heat. The boiling point depends on the pressure at which the liquid is held; and it increases as the pressure increases.

#### BTU (British Thermal Unit)

A measure of energy used to determine the input ratings for natural and LP water heaters. The amount of energy required to raise one pound of water, one degree Fahrenheit.

### Carbon Monoxide

A by-product of gas combustion which is generated as the result of the burning of fossil fuels (natural and LP gas). For safety purposes, the ANSI Z21 standards set specific limits for the amount of carbon monoxide that can be emitted from gas burning water heaters.

### Cast Iron Burner

A burner made of cast iron material, used today on the higher input water heaters of 60,000 BTU's up to 75,500 BTU's. Previously, cast iron was the preferred burner material used on LP water heaters until the development of stainless steel burners in the mid-80's.

### Catch Pan

A pan (usually metal) placed under the water heater to help prevent water damage in the event the water heater should begin to leak. Most catch pans have either a side or bottom drain fitting which should be piped to a suitable floor drain or piped to the outside of the home. Local codes may govern the type of catch pan required and how it is to be piped.

### Cathode

The negative electrode or an electrical cell - the opposite to anode. See also under "galvanic Action".

### Check Valve

Also known as a non-return valve, a check valve is intended to allow a fluid to flow in only one direction in a pipe. Should conditions occur which might lead to flow in the reverse direction the valve automatically closes.

### Chemical Rinse

A chemical sanitation rinse used in some dishwashers which allows the maximum rinse water temperature to be 140°F, instead of 180°F.

### Circulating Tank Heaters

There are two types as follows:

- a. Automatic Circulating Tank Water Heater: A water heater which furnishes hot water to be stored in a separate vessel. Storage tank temperatures are controlled by means of a thermostat installed on the water heater. Circulation may be either gravity or forced.
- b. Non-automatic Circulating Tank Water Heater: A water heater which furnishes hot water to be stored in a separate vessel. Storage tank temperatures are controlled by means of a thermostat installed in the storage vessel. (The Non-automatic is normally a tube type of heater).

### Circulating Tank System

A water heating system in which a water heater is connected to a separate storage tank so that large amounts of hot water may be built up for use during relatively short periods of peak demand. The ratio of recovery to storage is approximately 1 GPH recovery (100°F Rise) to gallon stored.

### Coaxial Vent

A vent system which provides for both outside air for combustion as well as venting of the combustion exhaust gases in a single vent system. Combustion air enters through the outer air tube and flows to the combustion chamber. Flue gases are discharged through the inner exhaust tube and released outside the building. (See also Direct Vent)

### Cold Inlet Temperature

The temperature of outside water coming into a water heating system. Throughout most of the U.S. this temperature is considered to be 40°F. (during the coldest months).

### Combustion

Combustion takes place when gaseous, liquid or solid fuels react at an elevated temperature with oxygen by burning, thus releasing heat. For good combustion an adequate supply of oxygen must be available, and all the carbon in the fuel will be converted to carbon dioxide and all the hydrogen to water vapor. The presence of carbon monoxide in the flue gases and/or sooting indicates imperfect combustion.

### Condensation

Condensation can form on the tank when it is first filled with water. The condensation might also occur with a heavy water draw and very cold inlet water. Drops of water falling on the burner can produce a sizzling or pinging sound, and water may also be seen beneath the heater. This condition is not unusual, and will disappear after the water in the heater becomes heated. Undersized water heaters can result in excessive water condensation.

### Convertible Thermostat Control

The type of control used on manufactured housing (mobile home) gas water heaters. This control is designed so it can use either natural gas or liquid petroleum (LP) gas as its fuel source. This type of control is not permitted on standard gas water heaters.

### Cycle

The number of times per second that a conductor carrying AC returns to the same polarity. Generally, 60 cycle AC is supplied. The cycles do not affect heating elements, but may effect auxiliary equipment such as solenoids or coils. Synchronous motors, as used in clocks and timing mechanisms, are directly affected by changes in cycle (see also "Hertz").

### D.C. (Direct Current)

Electrical supply in which the polarity of the two wires (whether wire is positive or negative) does not change. Batteries produce DC. DC supply is also found in railway use, on board some ships and in older types of generating equipment. While elements will operate equally on DC or AC auxiliary equipment such as thermostats, motors etc., do not, and special arrangements have to be made to enable an appliance designed for AC to operate on DC.

### D.O.E. (Department of Energy)

Regulates the efficiency standards of all residential gas and electric water heaters with capacities from 20 to 120 gallons and inputs up to 75,000 BTU. The current NAECA standards are



administered by the Department of Energy which is required to review and recommend changes to the efficiency standards.

#### Dielectric unions

Generally a plastic lined nipple used in water systems of dissimilar metals to break the galvanic circuit such as that created by copper and galvanized steel. In most modern homes where copper piping is used throughout, the use of dielectric unions is not necessary.

#### Dip Tube

A non-metallic tube extending from the cold water inlet to a predetermined area near the bottom of the tank that feeds cold water into the water heater. The length of the dip tube will vary based on the tank dimensions, and efficiency of the heater. The length of the tube is precisely measured in order to prevent excessively high temperatures at the top of the tank (stacking) during short draws of water.

#### Direct Vent

Designed to use outside air for combustion rather than the inside air from within a home or building. The term "balanced flue" refers to the fact they draw in the same amount of air as they exhaust. Two types of direct vent products are offered. A horizontal direct vent which handles both combustion air and discharge gases through a single, coaxial vent. The mobile home direct vent brings in combustion air from below the floor and discharges combustion products vertically through a roof jack.

#### Displacement

Hot water is much less dense than cold water and this is used in the displacement principle on which most storage water heaters operate. If cold water is fed into the bottom of a tank full of hot water it will displace an equal quantity of hot water out of the top of the tank and if the heater is correctly designed, the hot water will float on the cold water for a considerable time without mixing.

#### Draft Diverter (vent hood)

Capping device that connects the water heater to the venting system. The draft diverter aids in the venting by providing a higher ambient air pressure and assists in the updraft movement of combustion gases. Draft Hood equipped water heaters operate under a non-positive type vent pressure. The heat of the flue products provides the thermal lift to achieve a draft in the vent, with cold air entering the combustion chamber to replace the hotter air rising. The draft hood also functions as a relief opening in the event that the flue becomes blocked or experiences a down draft.

#### Drain Valve

Valve used primarily to drain the hot water when performing periodic cleaning or replacing a part.

#### Draw Rate

The rate at which water is drawn from a water heating system, usually expressed in gallons per

minute (GPM). In residential applications, this is usually restricted to a single delivery point such as a shower head.

#### Dry Firing

Refers to the condition of supplying power to an element in a water heater that is not completely full of water. Power supplied to an element not submerged in water can cause the element to "burn out" and fail to operate.

#### ECO - Energy Cut-Off

A safety cut-off switch built into the thermostat of a water heater to shut off the flow of gas or electricity before temperatures reach unsafe levels. The ECO will trip off at approximately 170 degrees Fahrenheit (electric) or 190 degrees Fahrenheit (gas).

#### Efficiency

Efficiency is a measure of performance expressing the results obtained as a percentage of effort put in. On this basis, thermal efficiency is the percentage of the potential heat content of a fuel which becomes available as hot water (or hot air in the case of a space heater). Thermal efficiency is a measure of performance under stated conditions, and the efficiency will vary as conditions are varied. Accordingly, official or test thermal efficiencies should not be quoted or used unless the circumstances are comparable to the method of test. See also "Pipe Losses".

#### Electronic Ignition

Also called intermittent ignition system. The ignition system of the residential power vent water heater. Helps reduce standby losses by igniting the pilot only during the burner cycle. Also prevents nuisance pilot outage due to down draft conditions.

#### Energy Factor

A measure of the overall efficiency rating of a water heater... the higher the number the more efficient the water heater.

#### EverKleen™

Specially developed inlet tube that creates a high-velocity spiraling water stream which helps dislodge sediment and prevent buildup in the tank. It also creates better mixing throughout the water heater tank which reduces the effects of stacking.

#### Expansion Tank

A tank with a sealed-in compressible air cushion which will compress as thermal expansion occurs...providing a space to hold and store the additional expanded water volume. Expansion tanks are used when check valves, back flow preventers, or pressure reducing valves are installed in a water system to deal with the effects of a "closed loop" condition.

#### First Hour Rating

The calculated amount of hot water a fully heated water heater can deliver in the first hour period.

### Fatigue

Just as the human body can break down if exposed to an adverse environment or repeated stress, so can materials fail due to fatigue. A material can fail by repeated exposure to a stress well below its normal breaking point purely by cycling the stress on and off. Water heaters can be exposed to repeated pressure fluctuations during their life and must be designed to resist the effects of fatigue.

### Flow Control Valve

These are devices that are installed between the supply pipe and the plumbing fixture (shower head, faucet, etc.) to reduce the flow of water to a constant level. They are highly recommended for large shower installations because they can often reduce the flow of water more than half without disturbing the spray pattern. This, of course, results in a savings of water and the energy required to heat the water.

### Flow Rate

Flow rate is the amount of water in gallons flowing in a plumbing fixture or pipe over a period of time, normally minutes. Flow rate is normally given in gallons per minute. (GPM)

### Flue Baffle

A device inside the flue that restricts the flow of the heated combustible air to allow for better heat transfer between the flue and water inside the tank.

### GPH (Gallons per Hour)

The term used to measure the recovery rate of a water heater. A water heater at a certain input rate will recover "x" amount of gallons per hour at a certain temperature rise. The higher the temperature rise needed, the less a water heater will supply in GPH.

### GPM (Gallons per Minute)

This stands for gallons per minute and refers to the amount of water flowing through a plumbing fixture or pipe.

### Galvanic Action

If two unlike metals are immersed in an electrolyte, an electrical potential will exist between them. If the two are in electrical contact, an electrical current will flow. The metal which becomes the anode of this cell will corrode and dissolve, while the cathode will be protected from corrosion. The two metals do not have to be vastly different for this effect to take place, It can occur with copper and a copper alloy. It can even occur with two different parts of the same sheet, tube or rod.

### Glass-lined

A coating of enamel bonded to the inside of the tank to help protect the tank from corrosive elements in the water. This is a coating of vitreous enamel bonded to an iron or steel surface by firing at red heat. The enamel is a special formulation resistant of hot water and is not the same type of glass as that used in windows and glassware. Glass lined heater may be referred to as 'glass enamel lined', 'glass enameled', 'vitreous enameled' or 'bonded vitreous enamel'.

### Grain

A measure of weight. There are 7,000 grains in one pound.

### Hardness (of water)

Natural waters contain impurities in various proportions. Some of these impurities affect the lathering of soap in such water. The main impurities are the soluble salts of magnesium and calcium. The hardness of a water is its difficulty in raising a lather. Hardness is measured in terms of the equivalent amount of calcium carbonate in a solution which would cause equal difficulty in lathering. It may be quoted as 'grains per gallon' or 'parts per million' or 'parts per 100,000'. The hardness is generally determined by finding the quantity of a specially prepared soap solution. It is necessary to add to a known quantity of the water in order to establish a permanent lather. To convert parts per million to grains per gallon, divide by 17. A general classification of waters would be:

| Type        | Hardness       | Grains per Gallon  |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Soft        | 0 - 49 ppm     | 0 - 3 grains       |
| Fairly soft | 50 -99 ppm     | 3 - 6 grains       |
| Fairly Hard | 100 - 149 ppm  | 6 - 9 grains       |
| Hard        | 150 - 249 ppm  | 9 - 14.5 grains    |
| Very Hard   | 250 (plus) ppm | 14.5 (plus) grains |

### Heat Loss

A hot body loses heat by the combined effects of conduction, convection and radiation.

### Heat Trap Fittings

A device that helps reduce heat transfer from the water heater to the pipes. It contains a thermoplastic ball that seats themselves in place to help restrict heat transfer when hot water is not running. A Teflon ball (heavier than water) seats to trap standby heat on the hot outlet fitting. Similarly, a polypropylene ball (lighter than water) in the cold water inlet fitting floats up to seat during the standby mode.

### Heat Unit

A measure of heat energy. In English speaking countries, it is the BTU (British Thermal Unit). In Europe, it is the calorie (also spelled Calorie or Kalorie).

### Hertz (Hz)

A measure of frequency. One Hertz equals one cycle per second. 60 cycles AC is also called 60 Hertz AC.

### High Altitude

As related to water heaters, the orifice is changed to help aerate the gas supply to the heater so that it will operate properly in areas of higher altitude (thinner air). Standard water heaters are designed to operate safely up to 2,000 ft. Per the requirements of ANSI and the National Fuel Gas Code, the de-rate above this level is 4% per 1,000 feet altitude. Rheem generally de-rates gas products to a 5,000 ft elevation which results in a 20% reduction in BTU input.

### High Watt Density Element

The watt density of an element is the amount of heat transferred from any point on the surface of the element of the water. A high watt density element has less surface area of heating element than a low watt density element, but is transferring the same amount of energy into the water.

### Input Rate

A measure of heat input to a water heater; BTU's per hour of gas, WATTS per hour of electricity. The higher the input rate, the more hot water it will produce.

### Input Rating

The gas-burning capacity of a water heater in BTU's per hour. Water heater input ratings are based on sea level operation and need not be changed for operation up to 2,000 feet elevation. For operation at elevations above 2,000 feet, input rating should be reduced at a rate of 4% for each 1,000 feet above sea level. For instance, a gas heater with a 40,000 BTU input rating installed at 4,000 feet above sea level would have a reduced BTU rating of 33,600 BTU's.

### Instantaneous Water Heater

A water heater which has an input rating or at least 4,000 BTU per hour per gallon of stored water.

### Intermittent Ignitor

Also referred to as an I.I.D. (Intermittent Ignition device). The ignition system of the residential power vent water heater. This is used to light the pilot during the heating cycle.

### Junction Box

The place in electric water heaters where the power supply is connected to the water heater. Water heaters wired for 3-phase operation will require a separate external junction box.

### Kilowatt (kW)

A measure of the rate of supply of energy or power and is equal to 1,000 watts. A kilowatt equals 3,412 BTU per hour.

### Lifeguard™ Element

A trade marked registered heating element offered by Rheem. The element has a stainless steel outer sheath of INCOLY® 800, the same material found in electric range elements. The LIFE-GUARD™ element is a low watt density design and contains a small resistor built into the element to reduce cathodic reaction with the water inside the tank. This effectively will prolong the anode life and protect the tank for a longer period, especially in areas with aggressive water conditions.

### Lime Buildup

Mineral deposits usually found in hard water. (See sediment build up)

### Lint Screen

Removes lint and dirt from primary air before it enters the primary air opening. Also traps particles on the inlet side of a gas control valve.

### Low Nox

Term that refers to natural gas water heaters required in select areas of California which are built with a special burner to help reduce or limit the amount of nitrous oxides (Nox) released during the combustion process.

### Low Watt Density Element

The watt density of an element is the amount of heat transferred from any point on the surface of the element of the water. A low watt density element has more surface area of heating element than a high watt density element, but is transferring the same amount of energy into the water. A low watt density element will generally last longer than a high watt density element.

### Maintenance Rate (Stand-by losses)

The maintenance rate is the rate which heat or energy has to be supplied to an appliance to maintain its temperature at the required level when the unit is not being used. In the case of a storage heater, it is the heat input required to hold the unit at the required temperature (generally 80°F above ambient on gas heaters and 100°F above ambient on electric heaters). The maintenance rate may be measure in BTU per hour for gas or kilowatts per 24 hours for electricity. The temperature above ambient must always be quoted.

### Multiple Heater Installation

This is an installation where a number of heaters are used to supply the total building hot water requirements. The heaters are manifolded together in one location and the installation can be defined as a 'central water heating system'. This is one of the easiest systems to service and maintain. When one heater is being serviced, the remaining heater(s) will continue to supply hot water.

### Multi-Watt Element

An element that has the capability to function at two different wattages. The Multi-Watt element offered by Rheem is convertible from 3800 to 5500 watts.

### NAECA

National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987... The Federal Law enacted by Congress which sets minimum energy efficiency standards for residential water heaters and other products. Effective with water heaters produced on or after January 1, 1990. NAECA supersedes all previous state and local energy efficiency requirements.

### NPT (National Pipe Thread)

### Nipples

Can be made of various materials. Used to connect the water heater to the piping system.

### Nitrous Oxide

By-product produced in the combustion process of natural gas water heaters.

### Off-Peak Metering

Required by some electric utilities to reduce excessive electricity demands during peak periods. Radio controlled or timed meters are the most common method of off-peak metering.

### Orifice

Device on the burner assembly that controls the flow of gas to the burner.

### Output

The output on a water heater is normally given in gallons per hour at a 100°F temperature rise. It is the quantity of water that the heater will deliver at 140°F, when the cold start temperature is 40°F. All water heaters are stamped with this output rating in gallons per hour.

### PVC Venting

3" PVC (or ABS) schedule 40 pipe can be used to vent Power Vent water heaters.

### Peak Period

Peak period refers to the time during the day when the water heating system experiences its greatest draw (demand). With the exception of applications that require continuous hot water draw, tests have shown that the peak period of hot water usage will occur once or twice a day in residential applications. Peak periods for commercial applications are dramatically different. A peak period in a school gymnasium shower may occur every hour!

### Phase

For ease of production and distribution, AC is distributed in what is known as 3 phase supply using three active wires and one neutral wire. On a 240/480 volt supply, the voltage between any one active wire and the neutral wire is 240 volts. The voltage between any two active wires is 480 volts.

### Pilot Bracket

The means by which the pilot is mounted to the burner. The bracket also holds the thermocouple or sensor in fixed relationship to the pilot burner ports

### Pilot Light

The flame designed to be continuously lit that ignites the main burner when the thermostat demands heat.

### Pilot Orifice

A cup shaped part in the pilot which contains precisely sized openings which control the amount of gas to the pilot.

### Pilot Ports

The openings through which the gas or gas and air mixture passes before burning.

### Pipe Losses

Certification tests of a water heater are carried out on an isolated heater - not connected to hot or cold water lines. (Note: Stand-by losses determined do not apply to the installed heater.)

Additional losses take place when installed. These are called 'pipe losses' and are made up of:

- 1) Conduction of heat along the hot and cold water pipes. This effect is generally limited in extent.
- 2) Convection of water in the hot water line above the heater. This effect can be quite large, but can be reduced considerably by introducing a 'heat trap' in the hot water line at the heater.
- 3) Radiation from the hot water pipes and fittings. These are reduced by insulating.
- 4) Between uses, the water in the hot water line gets cold. This has to be run off before hot water can be drawn from the fixture.

The overall effect is reduced by the following means:

- 1) Fit a heat trap in the hot water lines.
- 2) Use small diameter pipe.
- 3) Use short runs of pipe.
- 4) Insulate hot water pipes, particularly the section nearest the heater.

### Pre-heated Water

This is the water that has been heated in one water heater before going to another water heater to be raised to an even higher temperature. For instance, in restaurants there will often be one heater that will heat incoming water to 140°F (general purpose water). This pre-heated water will go into a booster heater to be heated to 180°F for the sanitizing rinse cycle of some dish-washers.

### Pressure Reducing Valve

A valve which automatically reduces inlet water pressure to a specified value at its outlet, under static cold water conditions.

### Primary Air Intake

The hole or opening through which air is drawn to mix with a gas for burning.

### Polyurethane Foam Insulation

The foam used to insulate the water heaters for high energy efficiency.

### POWERGLO™

Name given to ignition system on Rheem power vent products.

### Power Vent

Gas water heater that uses a blower to vent the flue gases out of the heater. The power vent water heater can be vented horizontally rather than vertically as required by conventional atmospheric water heaters. This allows you to vent directly outside through a wall. May also refer to an after-market blower kit that may be attached to a natural draft gas heater.



### R-Foam™ Insulation

Rigid polyurethane foam insulation has been proven to be a more effective insulating material in reducing the standby loss through the jacket than previously used fiberglass. Generally, with regard to electric heaters, the more insulation, the more efficient the heater becomes. Today's foam material utilizes an HCFC blowing agent which is environmentally friendly.

### R-Tech™ Anode

Patented anode design that reduces current draw and results in a longer anode life. Works in conjunction with the resistered heating element and is also effective with aggressive water areas which produce hydrogen sulfide (smelly water).

### R-Value

A measure of insulating value. Generally, the higher the R-Value, the greater the resistance to heat loss.

### Recovery

Gallons of water per hour a water heater can raise the temperature of by 90°. Generally, the higher the BTU input rate, the faster the recovery rate is. Recovery rates are also a component of the First Hour Rating.

### Recovery Efficiency %

The percent of heat value transferred from its fuel source. The better the recovery efficiency, the more energy efficient a water heater is. Electric water heaters are assumed to be 98% efficient as virtually all the electric energy is transferred to the water. Gas water heaters can have recovery efficiency rates of 76% up to over 90%. This is only one measure of efficiency... the ENERGY FACTOR is the best overall measure of a water heaters efficiency.

### Recovery Rating

All certified commercial water heaters are required to be stamped with this information. It is the quantity of water obtained by dividing the manufacturer's input rating in BTU per hour by 1100 BTU per gallon. This is based on a 100°F temperature rise, 75 percent thermal efficiency and a nominal specific heat for water of 8.25 BTU per gallon per °F.

### Resistered Element

Element available from Rheem that has a small resistor built into the element to reduce cathodic reaction with the water inside the tank. ALL electric water heater elements supplied by Rheem are resistered.

### Roof Jack Vent

Used with manufactured housing gas water heaters, the roof jack is the venting system from the water heater to the outside air. It is adjustable to accommodate different roof thickness and pitches. A roof jack supplied by Rheem is required on any mobile home direct vent water heater.

### SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District)

Required by the Environment Protection Agency to limit the amount of nitrous oxides (Nox) emissions from residential natural gas water heaters up to 75,000 BTU. The SCAQMD requirements are enforced in various areas of California.

### Safety Shut-off Valve

A device on a gas appliance which shuts off the gas supply to the appliance to prevent a hazardous situation. A flame failure safety shut off (or safety pilot) operates when the actuating flame becomes extinguished. A "100%" shutoff valve cuts off all gas including main and pilot burners. Other types may cut off only the supply to main burners.

### Sanitizing Water (180°F)

Sanitization means the effective bactericidal treatment of dishes and utensils. Sanitization is based on the principle of heat build up at the surface of dishware. Temperatures at the surface of the clean dishes must be hot enough (180°F) in the final rinse cycle of dishwashers to complete effective sanitation, that is, destruction of harmful microorganisms or germs. Further, 180°F rinse temperature effectively air dries chinaware, glassware and utensils.

### Sediment Build-Up

Sediment or scale build up is one of the most serious problems caused by hard water mineral deposits. These deposits, commonly called lime build up, may clog water pipes, collect in the bottom of water heaters and collect on electrical heating elements immersed inside the water heater. The build up on the electrical heating elements will insulate the elements and reduce their efficiency. Eventually, the elements will fail. If this sediment is allowed to remain in the tank, it will gradually sink to the bottom where it will harden into an insoluble scale. This will lead to a reduction in the efficiency of the heater, clogging of the drain valve and may lead to eventual tank failure.

### Self Contained Commercial Storage Heater

A water heater that heats and stores water at a thermostatically controlled temperature for delivery on demand. Input rating above 75,000 BTUH. They are ideally suited for applications where there are several short peak period draws. Basically they can re-heat a volume of water equal to their storage capacity 1 ½ to 2 ½ times each hour.

### Simultaneous Wiring

A double element heater may be wired for simultaneous operation. This means both elements will heat at the same time during the initial fill or during heavy water draws.. This can be useful when there is a requirement for a rapid recovery time. This does not mean that both elements will always fire simultaneously. During normal water draws, only the bottom element will fire, similar to a non-simultaneous heater.

### Smelly Water

Hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) is a gas present in some waters. There is never any doubt when it is present due to its offensive "rotten egg" odor in concentrations as low as one part per million. Hydrogen sulfide is present in the incoming cold water supply and normally found only in

ground water. Hydrogen sulfide gas can produce a favorable condition for the growth of organisms referred to as 'sulfate reducing bacteria'. This favorable condition is enhanced with the application of heat, such as in a hot water heater. The smell is most noticeable with the first hot water draw in the morning or maybe when you get home from work.

#### Stacking

Occurs when frequent small draws of water create different temperatures throughout the tank resulting in increased peak temperatures at the top of the tank. ANSI /AGA certification testing sets specific limits as to the temperature differential between the bottom and top of the tank. One of the benefits of The EverKleen™ system is that it greatly reduces peak temperatures and stacking effects, thus increases first hour deliverability.

#### Stand Kit

Raises gas water heater 18" above floor level as required by many codes.

#### Standby Loss

The heat energy lost during standby mode operation of the water heater. Most standby loss in gas water heaters occurs through the flue system. Electric water heaters standby loss occurs through the exterior jacket.

#### Storage Water Heater

A water heater incorporating a storage tank such that water can be heated whether water is flowing through the heater or not (as contrast to instantaneous Water Heater).

#### System Temperature

This refers to the temperature of the water actually in the water heater, i.e., 140°F, 180°F, 180°F, etc. This is as opposed to the inlet temperature (water coming into heater) or the use temperature ( the water as it is used from the heater, either at heater temperature or mixed with cold).

#### Temperature

This is a measure of "hotness" or "coldness" or the ability to transmit heat outward or receive heat inward. Heat and Temperature can be compared to water and heights. As water will flow naturally down hill, so heat flows from the higher temperature to the lower. The flow in the reverse direction requires the application of energy in some way. Temperature is normally measured in Fahrenheit degrees (°F) but in scientific literature it may be quoted as Celsius (°C).

#### Temperature and Pressure (T&P) Relief Valve

Safety device that vents extreme pressure and excessively hot water outside the tank to prevent tank rupture and explosion. Commonly called the T&P valve, it is designed to operate at approximately 150 PSI or 210° F.

#### Temperature Rise

The difference in temperature between the desired hot water and the incoming cold water, expressed in degrees Fahrenheit. If the desired temperature at the faucet is 120° F and the

incoming cold water is 70° F, the required temperature rise is 50° F ( $120^{\circ} - 70^{\circ} = 50^{\circ}$ ). Temperature rise is the number of degrees Fahrenheit that the water must be raised either from the inlet water temperature or a pre-heat water temperature. In short, the temperature rise is the difference between existing water temperature and desired water temperature.

### Thermal Expansion

When water is heated it expands. However, water is not compressible. Therefore, the expanded water along with a "closed" water system creates a dangerous pressure in the water heater and system piping. The "closed" condition is usually due to a check valve or "backflow preventer" installed in the system. This pressure will cause the T&P valve to open at approximately 150 PSI. The T&P, however, is not designed to open on a regular basis and could eventually fail. If the T&P does not function properly, there is a potential safety hazard. Expansion tanks are the most widely used device to deal with the effects of thermal expansion. On being heated, all solids and liquids expand, the exact amount of expansion varying with different materials. The expansion of metals is used to operate solid stem thermostats where two materials of different expansion characteristics are coupled. The different expansion rates of the two materials can operate a valve or switching mechanism. The expansion of liquids on heating has three effects. First, there is an increase in volume. This increase has to be allowed for by provision of a relief valve which allows the extra volume of water to leave the storage cylinder. The second effect is that expansion with heat makes the liquid less dense, making heated water lighter than cold water, and causing it to rise by means of "convection currents". This effect is used in circulating water heaters which are used with storage tanks fitted with hot and cold connections. In these installations the hot water rises from the heating unit up the hot outlet to the storage tank, and cold water flow from the tank down the cold inlet to the heating unit. The third effect is that hot water, being less dense than cold water, will float on top of cold water without much mixing for some time. This principle is used in all displacement water heaters and allows cold water to enter the tank (while hot water is taken from the top) without mixing with the hot water.

### Thermal Input

The rate at which heat energy is supplied to an appliance. The Nominal Thermal Input (N.T.I.) is the basic or nominal input at which the unit was tested and to which published performance figures apply. For gas units, the N.T.I. should be measured in BTU per hour. Orifice size supplied and published gas pressure at the orifice give N.T.I. on one particular gas only, and adjustment may be needed on other gas types. Electrical appliances are rated in Kilowatts or Watts, (1 Kilowatt equals 1000 watts). Again this applies only to the voltage for which the element is designed.

### Thermocouple

Bi-metal device that, when heated by the pilot flame, carries millivolt current to the magnet assembly inside the gas control valve. Typically seen on residential applications

### Thermopile

Serves same function as a thermocouple; however, it contains a group of thermocouples built in 'series' and has a larger diameter than a thermocouple. Typically seen on commercial applications.

### Thermostat

A device which automatically maintains a predetermined temperature in an appliance. Thermostats can be of the "immersion" type where the actuating components are immersed in the fluid whose temperature is to be controlled or of the "surface mounted" type where the actuating components sense the fluids temperature through the wall of the tank. Thermostats can be "snap acting" i.e. operate from full-on to full-off and vice versa or "modulating" operating gradually from full-on to a minimum by-pass flow and vice versa. Some thermostats combine a modulating function from full-on to low-fire then snap action to off. The "differential" of a snap action thermostat is the temperature difference between the opening and closing functions.

### Transformer

Used in PowerVent water heaters and Universal™ commercial gas water heaters to activate the electrical components.

### Two Temperature System

This is a system that uses one heater to supply two different water temperature requirements with the use of a mixing valve. The way it works is that the application requiring the hottest water is fed directly from the heater, while water for the lower temperature application goes through a mixing valve to be combined with cold water to achieve the desired lower temperature. This is most often found in food service applications.

### U.B.C. (Uniform Building Code)

### U.L. (Underwriters Laboratory)

An independent laboratory for testing and listing products which meet standards set by UL and the American National Standards Institute.

### U.L. 307b

The standard which govern the Direct Vent Mobile Home product

### Unvented

As applied to most gas appliances, this means that the unit is not connected to a secondary flue. As applied specifically to water heaters this means that there is no open exhaust or vent pipe in the hot water system open to atmosphere at all times.

### Use Temperature

This is the temperature of the water as it is actually used. For instance, water for showers may be stored in the heater at 140°F but is mixed with cold near the point of use to arrive at use temperature of 95°F to 110°F.

### Vacuum Switch

Or pressure switch. Used in power vented water heaters. The vacuum switch verifies that the vent motor is running, after which gas is allowed to flow to the main burner.









**Rheem® Water Heaters  
Ruud® Water Heaters  
2600 Gunter Park Drive East  
Montgomery, AL 36109-1413**

**1-800-HEATER3  
www.rheem.com**

