

# HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER MAINTENANCE TIPS



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Heat pump water heaters are more energy efficient than conventional gas or electric water heaters. They pull heat from the surrounding air and transfer that heat to the tank's water using a refrigerant loop. A heat pump water heater can save you money and reduce your home's carbon footprint. Like conventional water heaters, heat pump water heaters require routine maintenance. Performing this maintenance or getting your heat pump water heater serviced regularly can extend the water heater's life and minimize loss of efficiency. Below are some maintenance tips to get the most out of your heat pump water heater.

## Routine Maintenance for all Gas, Electric Resistance, and Heat Pump Water Heaters

Like your old gas or electric water heater, heat pump water heaters require some of the same regular maintenance. Below lists some of those common routine maintenance requirements. Be sure to reference the manufacturer's operation and maintenance manual as well for specific guidance on your unit's necessary maintenance, step by step instructions, and frequency of maintenance.



### VISUAL INSPECTION

Conduct a visual inspection of your water heater and piping every few months to make sure there are no signs of damage or leaks in your system. If your hot water lines are metal, check to make sure these lines are still well insulated to prevent energy loss.



### DRAIN, FLUSH AND REFILL

Your water contains minerals and that can lead to limescale build up in the bottom of your tank. The limescale can prevent your unit from heating properly and hot water flowing correctly. It is recommended that you drain your water annually to help clean out any built-up sediment.



### TPR FUNCTION CHECK

The temperature and pressure relief (TPR) valve is vital for keeping your water heater and your home safe. At least once per year, lift the lever handle on the TPR valve to check the valve operates freely and release to ensure it returns to its closed position. Before operating the relief valve, make sure no one is at risk of coming into contact with the hot water released. If the valve fails to completely reset and continues to release water, immediately disconnect the electrical power, close the cold water inlet valve and call a qualified plumber.



### ANODE ROD INSPECTION

The anode rod in your tank is what prevents your water heater from rusting away. It attracts minerals present in the water through an electrochemical process and corrodes in place of the tank. The anode rod is critical for extending the life of the water heater. It's important to check the condition of the anode rod every 1 to 3 years and replace it as needed. Be sure to check the terms of your warranty or consult your supplier before undertaking this task yourself. A qualified plumber may be required to prevent violating the terms and conditions of your unit's warranty.

# Heat Pump Water Heater Specific Maintenance

Just like gas fired water heaters have specific maintenance checks, such as inspecting the burner and ventilation system, heat pump water heaters have additional heat pump specific maintenance. Below are two additional steps that will help maintain efficiency and extend the useful life of your equipment.



## WASH THE FILTER

Heat pump water heaters have an air filter. It can typically be removed from the top of the unit. Check the filter every few months or whenever your unit alerts to clean the filter. Before removing the filter, press the power button to place the water heater in Standby Mode and turn-off power to the water heater at the circuit breaker/fuse box. To clean the filter, wash it using a mild detergent and water. Make sure the filter is dry before placing it back in the water heater.



## CLEAN THE CONDENSATE LINES

It's important to clean your condensate drain every year so that it doesn't get backed. To clean your condensate drain lines, pour a cup of bleach in the access opening. This will kill any algae, mold, or mildew that has formed in the pipe. Ensure the condensate flows freely and unclog if needed. If you have a lower metal drain pan with standing water, this might indicate that you have a clogged condensate drain pan or lines and cleaning is needed.



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