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How to set temp on electric water heater

Public domain/Adam850/Wikimedia Commons When your household water heater fails, it can be a disaster. No hot water can mean no washing up, no showering and sometimes no heating either. So it pays to do your research as to which are the best heaters on the market. To get you started, here are 10 of the world's best brands.RheemRheem specializes in household water heaters, with a choice of tank, tankless and point-of-use models. They also have a range of solar-powered water heaters. Known for energy-efficiency and good warranties, Rheem is a reliable choice.CC BY 2.0/Mark Morgan Trinidad B/Flickr A.O. SmithMilwaukee-based A.O. Smith is something of a plumber's favorite. They make household and commercial units, including water heaters, boilers and storage tanks, and they're difficult to find outside of specialist plumbing wholesalers.CC BY-SA 3.0/Nvdongen/Wikimedia Commons EcoSmartEcoSmart's water heater range isn't just eco-friendly. These water heaters can also save you 60 percent on your bills. They're some of the cheapest on the market, despite their excellent quality and sophisticated SmartBoost technology.CC BY 2.0/LadyDragonflyCC - -> General ElectricGeneral Electric's hybrid heat pump electric water heater, the GeoSpring, made the brand a strong contender in the market. Released in 2014, the GeoSpring is among the most efficient 50-gallon/80-gallon options available.CC BY 2.0/JefferlyTurner/Flickr Stiebel EltronGerman company Stiebel Eltron has been manufacturing water heaters for almost a century. Its award-winning heat pump water heaters are energy-efficient, space-saving and versatile. They function well indoors and outdoors, even in lower temperatures.Public domain/GeorgHH/Wikimedia Commons BoschBosch has been making water heaters for 125 years. Their tankless water heaters are especially known for their reliability. Built to a high standard with high-quality materials, they're also really durable. The natural gas tankless water heater is among their most efficient units.CC BY-SA 2.0/Sorn/Flickr Bradford WhiteAll Bradford White water heater units are manufactured in the United States, so Bradford White parts are not much of an issue to replace. They come in a range of gas and electric models. And, although they tend to be a little more expensive than most, their durability makes them a good investment.CC BY 2.0/Steve-n-Tracy/Flickr RinnaiRinnai is one of the more popular water heater brands, with more than 30 million installed worldwide. They are perhaps best known for their tankless models, and customers are especially fond of their generous warranties.CC BY-SA 3.0/Behrat/Flickr TakagiLike Rinnai, Takagi is a Japan-based water heater manufacturer. The company specializes in tankless units only, concentrating on creating the best quality, most eco-friendly products in the world.CC BY 2.0/Free For Commercial Use (FFC)/Flickr KenmoreKenmore water heaters are consistently well reviewed. They're available in electric, natural gas, propane-powered and hybrid heat pump models. The brand offers pretty durable units, complemented by pretty good warranties.CC BY 2.0/Robert Stinnet/Flickr MORE FROM QUESTIONSANSWERED.NET Be safe—keep the water heater temperature setting at 120 degrees F. Turns out, even plain old tap water can be dangerous. Several people (mostly children) are sent to hospitals each year with burns caused by water heaters that are set too high. But what does "too high" really mean, and how can homeowners make sure that their water heaters are set a temperature that won't burn them? Well, the EPA recommends a hot temperature setting of 120-degrees F for both safety and energy-saving purposes. But finding that setting on the water heater temperature setting dial isn't easy, because most dials aren't labeled with numbers. If the stickers on the water heater don't tell you how to set the temperature and you can't find the owner's manual, use this method: Run hot water at the tap closest to the water heater for at least three minutes. Fill a glass and check the hot temperature. If the water is above 120 degrees, adjust the dial, wait about three hours and check again. Repeat until you get 120-degree F water. For a final test, check the water heater temperature the following morning before anyone uses any hot water. Make a mark on the dial once you find the correct setting so that you don't have to go through this testing process again. Here are more ways you can extend the life of your water heater. Family Handyman Thinking about upgrading to a tankless water heater? Here are the pros and cons: Originally Published: February 04, 2019 USDA.gov Before you go shopping for a new water heater, you must do your homework. There are numerous factors to consider when selecting the best water heater. Such factors include your personal preference, local utilities, capacity, warranty and value. Moreover, it's essential to learn the various features of top water heaters in the market to make an informed decision. Find out everything you need to know about the best water heaters for your home here. MORE FROM CONSUMERSEARCH.COM Water heaters raise the temperature of water for use in bathing, cooking, irrigation, industry and other hot-water applications. Here's how the three basic types of water heaters work.Electric Tank-Style Water HeatersThe standard water heater found in most households is a tank-style heater powered with electricity. The water heater resembles a large cylinder made of metal and is insulated. At the top of the electric tank-style heater is a connection to a cold-water dip tube that's inserted into the tank. The dip tube is long enough to supply cold water below the electric heating elements in the water heater. The heating elements or burners heat the cold water, which rises to the top of the water heater. A heat-out pipe is connected to the top of the water heater and delivers hot water from the top section of the tank.Gas-Fueled Tank-Style Water HeatersGas-fueled tank-style water heaters work similarly to electric tank-style water heaters. A dip tube brings cold water into the tank, and a heat-out pipe delivers hot water to hot water plumbing fixtures from the top of the tank. However, gas-fueled heaters work by heating the water in the tank via an internal metal chimney. A gas burner supplies a flame that raises the temperature of the metal chimney. The fumes and hot air from the gas combustion rise up in the chimney and flow outside via the chimney vent system. Both gas and electric tank-style water heaters heat and store water, so hot water is always available.Tankless Water HeatersTankless water heaters are also called demand-type water heaters. While tank-style heaters act as storage units for hot water, tankless water heaters only heat water as needed. You turn on the hot water tap, cold water begins flowing into the tankless appliance, and the appliance begins heating the water immediately with a heat exchanger. Tankless water heaters are available in gas-fired and electric versions. Tankless water heaters save money because they aren't constantly heating stored water. Hot water continues flowing as long as you need it, and the appliance shuts off as soon as hot water taps are closed. However, tankless water heaters have a limited ability to provide continuous hot water. Gas-fired water heaters offer higher flow rates of hot water than electric tankless water heaters. If a home or business needs a large quantity of hot water for simultaneous uses, several tankless water heaters can be installed.Water Heater ThermostatsAll types of water heaters include thermostats that the user sets to their preferred temperature. Lowering the water-heater thermostat can help save energy and protect small children from scalding. Higher water-heater thermostat settings can ensure that there is ample hot water for a large family, a busy restaurant or a business that uses a large quantity of heated water.Water Heater SafetyTank-style water heaters include anode rods and temperature-pressure relief valves. Anode rods are sacrificial devices that protect the tank from corrosion. Temperature-pressure relief valves let pressurized hot water out of the tank to reduce risks of water-heater explosions. Both anode rods and temperature-pressure valves must be maintained and tested periodically. MORE FROM QUESTIONSANSWERED.NET No one likes a cold shower. Even worse is getting scalded when you run the hot water. Properly setting the temperature on your water heater is important not only for your health and safety, but also for saving money on your electricity bill.Here is how to adjust the temperature on your water heater to save money and your skin.The correct temperature rangeThere are a number of reasons your water heater should be set within a specific range of temperatures. If it's set too low, not only will your hot water feel lukewarm, at best, it can also lead to bacterial growth which can cause things like Legionnaires' disease. This can be prevented by setting the water heater to a temperature where the bacteria Legionella cannot thrive. The Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) recommends water heaters be set to at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit (60 degrees Celsius) to minimize the growth of Legionella and other microorganisms.While you might be prone to just crank up the heat, water that is too hot is potentially more dangerous, especially if you have kids around the house. At 150 degrees Fahrenheit (66 degrees Celsius), it only takes two seconds to suffer third-degree burns. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recommends setting the water heater at no more than 120 degrees Fahrenheit (49 degrees Celsius) to prevent scalding. Not to mention, a water heater that is set too high can unnecessarily increase your electricity bill. Of course, every house is different. The further a faucet is from the water heater, the more heat will be lost as the water travels, especially if the pipes aren't insulated. That means you might have to raise the temperature beyond the recommended 120 degrees Fahrenheit (49 degrees Celsius) to compensate. Use your best judgement for your family and household when setting the temperature. It's smart to stay within the range of 120 to 140 degrees Fahrenheit (49 to 60 degrees Celsius). Make an adjustment, test it out and repeat until you settle on the perfect temperature setting for your home and water heater. Now playing: Watch this: Stop inside CNET's Guide to Smart Living Adjusting water heater temperatureThe interface for setting the temperature on a water heater will vary by type and model. Fortunately, most water heater types are adjusted similarly.For instance, most newer gas and electric water heaters have a thermostat behind an insulated access panel. Electric water heaters often have two thermostats -- one at the top and another at the bottom of the tank. And most tankless water heaters feature a display with a temperature readout and controls for adjusting the temperature.Regardless of the water heater type, you should test the water before you make any adjustments. Turn on the water in the bathroom or kitchen sink and let it run until it's fully hot. Then hold a thermometer under the water to get an accurate reading.TanklessAdjusting a tankless water heater is a lot like adjusting the thermostat for your air conditioning. Use the digital control panel to adjust the temperature up and down as needed. +5 more See all photos Gas or electric water heatersSome gas water heaters feature a dial near the bottom of the unit that you can simply adjust by turning it -- no tools required. However, most newer tank water heaters (gas or electric) are a little more involved, but it's still easy and should only take a couple of minutes.Start by turning off power to the water heater at the circuit breaker.Find the access panel for the thermostat(s) and use a screwdriver to remove the panel.Peel back the insulation.Use a flathead screwdriver to adjust the thermostat up or down. If your water heater has two thermostats, adjust both the same amount. The top thermostat should be a few degrees higher than the bottom.Replace the insulation and reinstall the access panel.Restore power to the water heater.For gas water heaters, you may need to relight the pilot light.Once you've made an adjustment, wait at least three hours before testing the water temperature again. You may need to make additional adjustments to get the temperature just right.If you've raised the temperature and you're still experiencing cold showers, your hot water heater may need to be serviced or even replaced.Is your home energy efficient? Here are 5 ways to find out.CNET's Guide to Smart Living is a destination for tips, tricks and guides that make your life smarter.

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