

Water Heater Maintenance Guide

Affix this magnet to your water heater



METHOD ONE flushes the water until it runs clear. **METHOD TWO** fully drains all the water from the tank and refills it with clear water. Try Method One first; if that is not successful, then use Method Two. You will need a garden hose and a white basin or bucket. **Please note:** These are general guidelines. It is always best to follow the manufacturer's instructions for your water heater.

METHOD ONE: To Flush a Hot Water Tank

1. Turn off the heater. On a gas heater, turn the gas valve to the pilot or stand-by position. On an electric or oil fired heater, turn off the electric supply to the heater.
2. Connect a garden hose to the draincock at the bottom of the heater. The draincock looks like a regular garden faucet.
3. Run the hose to a place where the water can safely exit the heater such as a sink, drain or through a window or door to the outside. Open the draincock so the water runs at full flow.
Remember, the water will be HOT, so use caution.
4. Check the water after about 10 minutes by filling the white basin or bucket. (A white bucket allows you to see if the water is clear.)
5. If the water is clear, go to Step 6. If the water is discolored, repeat Step 4 until the water is clear.
6. Close the draincock and remove the garden hose. Beware, there will be water in the hose.

Cold Water Feed

Draincock



METHOD TWO: To Drain a Hot Water Tank

1. Turn off the heater. On a gas heater, turn the gas valve to the pilot or stand-by position. On an electric or oil-fired heater, turn off the electric supply to the heater.
2. Turn off the cold water feed to the heater and connect a garden hose to the draincock at the bottom of the heater. The draincock looks like a regular garden faucet.
3. Run the hose to a place where the water can safely exit the heater such as a sink, drain or through a window or door to the outside. Open the draincock so the water runs at full flow. **Remember, the water will be HOT, so use caution.**
4. After all the water has drained from the heater, turn on the cold water feed and let the water run through the heater and out through the garden hose for about 10 minutes.
5. Close the draincock and remove the garden hose. Beware, there will be water in the hose. Turn on any hot water faucet in the house. This allows the tank to refill with water. When water comes out of the faucet, the tank is full.