

Tank Water Heater Buying Guide.



PLUMBING
HEATING
COOLING
ELECTRICAL

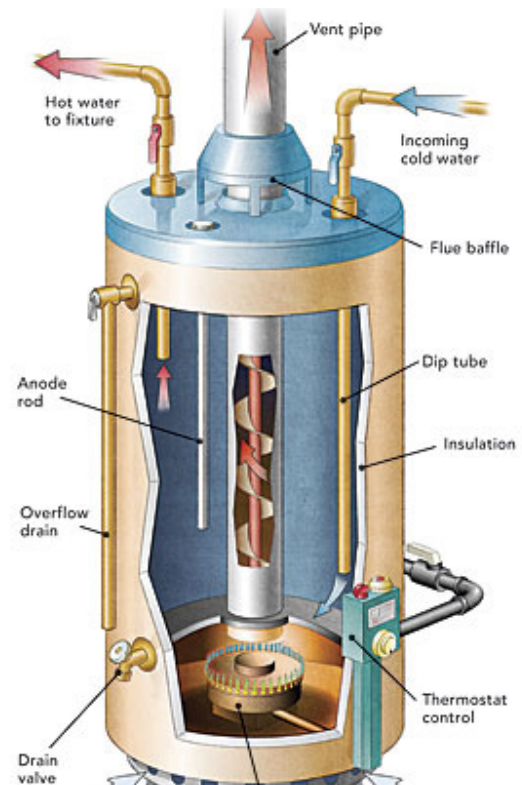
HOW DOES A TANK WATER HEATER WORK?

Tank-style water heaters are what most people in New Mexico have for their water heater. A typical tank water heater will use a storage tank (looks like a big metal cylinder) It will use either gas or electricity to heat a certain amount of water at a time, depending on the size of your tank. Gas water heaters use a flame underneath the tank to create heat, while electric water heaters use a heating element to warm the water.

Each tank has pipes that enter and exit the tank to move the water to where you need it (i.e. shower, dishwasher, etc.). The dip tube brings in cold water from your home's water lines into the base of the tank. The heating element turns on until the water heats to your set temperature. There's a thermostat to monitor the temperature and a pressure relief valve to help ensure the heating process doesn't produce unsafe levels of water pressure.

For every gallon of hot water you use, you're putting cold water back into the tank that will need to be reheated. The average gas heater takes between 30 - 40 minutes to fully heat up the water in its tank. The average electric heater can take almost twice as long - up to one hour and 20 minutes.

WATER HEATER



THE BASICS

1. Water enters the tank from the main water supply.
2. The burner at the bottom of the tank starts to heat the water.
3. The hot water rises to the top as it is heated.
4. When you need hot water, it's taken from the top of the tank where the hottest water is located.



When to Replace

5 SIGNS YOU MAY NEED A NEW TANK WATER HEATER.

1. AGE OF YOUR WATER HEATER.

Age gives you an idea of when to replace it so it doesn't become a problem and a potential hazard. If your water heater is older than 10 years, it's a good idea to start thinking about replacing it, even if you haven't begun to experience problems yet.

2. YOUR TANK IS LEAKING.

Water around the base of your water heater is a telltale sign that you have a problem. It needs to be addressed as soon as possible, or you run the risk of dealing with a potential disaster.

3. YOUR WATER WON'T HEAT UP.

Water not heating doesn't necessarily mean that you need to replace your water heater, but it's important to know what might be causing the problem. It's also possible that your family is outgrowing your current water heater's capabilities.

4. IT'S MAKING NOISES.

Popping, cracking, or rumbling sounds can indicate sediment buildup at the bottom of the tank. Excessive sediment can reduce efficiency and eventually lead to damage.

5. RUST AND CORROSION.

Inspect the tank for visible signs of rust and corrosion, this can weaken the tank and lead to leaks. Any structural issues can compromise the integrity of the tank.

LIFESPAN

Most manufacturers' water heater life expectancy is between 8 - 12 years, with proper maintenance.

Most warranties only cover up to 10 years.



Other Reasons to Replace

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS TO CONSIDER REPLACING YOUR WATER HEATER BEYOND JUST AGE OR MALFUNCTION.

- **SAVE MONEY**

Newer water heaters are often more energy-efficient, helping you cut down on utility bills.

- **TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS**

Upgraded models come with better features, like on-demand heating or space-saving tankless options.

- **AVOID REPAIRS**

If your current heater frequently breaks down, it might be more cost-effective to get a new, reliable one.

- **WARRANTY ENDS**

If your warranty is expiring, consider replacing the heater for continued coverage and peace of mind.

- **HOME CHANGES**

If you're renovating, it's a good time to upgrade the water heater to meet new needs or layouts.

- **FOLLOW REGULATIONS**

Changes in local codes or incentives for energy-efficient models might make upgrading worthwhile.

REMEMBER

Consult with a professional plumber to assess your specific situation and determine the most suitable water heater replacement for your needs.



How Much does a Tank Water Heater Cost

TANK WATER HEATERS CAN VARY WIDELY DEPENDING ON SEVERAL FACTORS.

TYPE AND SIZE

Gas water heaters tend to be more expensive upfront but may be more cost-effective in the long run. Electric heaters are generally cheaper upfront but may have higher operational costs. The size of the tank, measured in gallons, influences the cost. Larger tanks generally cost more.

OPERATING EFFICIENCY/ENERGY FACTOR

High-efficiency models may cost more upfront but can result in lower energy bills over time. Look for the Energy Factor (EF) rating to compare the efficiency of different models.

TIME TO INSTALL & LABOR COSTS

Professional installation expenses vary based on location, complexity, and potential modifications needed for existing plumbing and gas lines.

LOCAL CODES AND PERMITS

Compliance with local building codes and obtaining necessary permits can add to the overall cost.

WATER HEATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS & REBATES

In some areas, there are energy efficiency programs or rebates that can offset the cost of purchasing a more efficient water heater.

CONSIDER

Consider the long-term operating costs in addition to the upfront price when making a decision on which water heater to purchase.



Why You Should Hire a Professional

If you're considering installing a new water heater yourself, you may want to reconsider after you've been able to evaluate all of the risks. It's not a simple project, and the consequences of making mistakes are serious.

A licensed professional will ensure that your water heater is permitted and up to code upon installation. Choose a reputable company that stands behind their work and offers a warranty guarantee. If an issue comes up while the unit is under warranty, your professional will make it right.

1. RISK OF FIRE & EXPLOSION

Doing your own installation isn't worth putting your family's lives at risk, not to mention the resulting property damage.

2. PEACE OF MIND

When you go with a licensed plumbing company, you're not just buying a job well done - you're giving yourself and your family peace of mind.

3. CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Carbon monoxide is an odorless gas, so if there is a leak, you won't be able to detect it (unless you have a functional carbon monoxide detector).

4. HOME SALE ISSUES

Failure to pass inspection requirements can mean repairs and maybe even re-installation. It's possible that you may end up paying twice.

5. PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE

Failure to pass inspection requirements can mean repairs and maybe even re-installation. It's possible that you may end up paying twice.

ONLINE

Be leery of products sold online. They typically do not come with a warranty, they may not include code upgrades and they may not fit and will cost more in the long run.

Financing Options

TLC offers affordable and flexible ways to upgrade or replace your water heater or other equipment in your home.

TLC has partnered with Nusenda Credit Union to provide our customers with special, low-interest financing for furnaces and other home system upgrades and repairs. This exclusive offer is available to TLC customers only.

TLC works directly with Nusenda to make financing easy. You don't have to be a Nusenda member to be approved.

For more information you can contact Nusenda directly, or apply online at our website.



Nusenda Credit Union

Merchant Lending Department
(505) 889-5113
merchantlending@nusenda.org

The Power of WE[®]



SERVICE FINANCE COMPANY, LLC

TLC also offers financing with Service Financing Company, LLC. We have added this as a second option for customers who would like to finance their ac conversion or other home repairs. This option is based on approved credit only. You can apply on our website or call our office to speak with our financing specialists about either of these options.

- ✓ Low Interest Options
- ✓ Deferred Payment Option
- ✓ Easy Approval



Thank You For Downloading this Guide

WHY CHOOSE US?

We offer unbeatable service and support.

When you choose TLC for your water heater installation, you get a company that has stood behind our craftsmanship and work for over 35 years. We're not just a company that will install equipment and leave you hanging when you need service or maintenance on your new system. We'll be here every step of the way from the initial estimate through the life of your new water heater. You can rest assured that your installation will be done by professional, knowledgeable technicians. We offer an unbeatable warranty and will stand behind our work with a 100% satisfaction guarantee.

You're making an investment in your home and your comfort. Our job is to ensure that your new system brings you comfort and peace of mind.

We hope you found this guide helpful in making a decision about your home's water heating system. TLC is here for you throughout this process so if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to our team. We know purchasing a water heater is a big decision, and we're here to help. If you're ready to schedule a free no-obligation estimate, please schedule below, or call our office.

CONTACT US:

Call our office today.

Albuquerque
(505) 761-9644

Santa Fe
(505) 471-0119

[Schedule Free Estimate](#)

