



How To Replace An Electric Thermostat

*If you are not comfortable working with electricity, do not attempt this procedure.
Call your plumbing professional.*

This procedure applies to either the upper or lower thermostat.

Before replacement, be sure you have selected the same identical thermostat type as on the water heater. *Please note- Upper thermostats are usually not the same as the lower thermostat.*

1. Before servicing the water heater, **DISCONNECT or TURN OFF** the main electric power breaker feeding the water heater. This is normally located on the electric service panel.
2. Remove the cover panel and insulation to expose the thermostat. Remove the plastic protective cover over the thermostat.
3. Before servicing the water heater thermostat, verify with a voltmeter, that voltage/power has been disconnected to the water heater. Measure for voltage at the top two screws of the thermostat. There should not be any power.
4. Disconnect the thermostat leads. Tag the leads before removal from the screw terminals to eliminate incorrect wiring problems.
5. Remove the thermostat by lifting it out of the retaining bracket. Be careful not to pull too hard on the retaining bracket. Breaking the bracket will require the entire water heater to be replaced.
6. Replace the unserviceable thermostat with a new identical thermostat. Ensure the back of the thermostat is pressing tightly against the tank. Re-wire per diagram in the Use and Care booklet that came with the water heater or your tagged leads.
7. Double check to be sure your wire connections are correct and they are firm and tight.
8. Replace the plastic protective cover to the thermostat.
9. Re-establish the electric power to the water heater.
10. Adjust the thermostat so the water temperature does not exceed 120° F.
11. Cycle test the water heater to be certain of proper operation.
12. Replace the insulation and cover panel.