

WATER HEATER Replacement Guide

Common Water Heater Manufacturers:

A.O. Smith USA - Manufactured in  -  - 

Bosch Germany - Manufactured in 

Bradford-White USA - Manufactured in 

EcoSmart USA - Manufactured in  - 

GE Appliances USA - Manufactured in 

Navien South Korea - Manufactured in 

Noritz Japan - Manufactured in - 

Rheem-Ruud USA - Manufactured in  - 

Rinnai Japan - Manufactured in 

State USA - Manufactured in 

Takagi Japan - Manufactured in 

Thermo2000 Canada - Manufactured in 

Whirlpool USA - Manufactured in 

Key Differences:

Energy Source

Energy Efficiency

Hot Water Recovery Time

Hot Water Delivery Time

Temperature Variability

Remote and Smart Controls

Operational Noise

Leak Protection Features

Maintenance Requirements

Warranty

General Water Heater Replacement Guidelines:

- Test your home's water pressure. Install a pressure reducing valve if pressure exceeds recommended limits.
- Rust, corrosion or moisture coming from a hot water tank is usually an indicator that it needs to be replaced.
- Do a water color test by comparing the warm tank reservoir water to cold water from the tap.
- Consider having a recirculating valve installed with a tankless water heater to shorten hot water delivery time.
- Hybrid/Heat Pump water heaters will cool the surrounding air space. Keep this in mind when choosing the best location.
- Wall-mounted tankless water heaters can free up floor space where a standard water tank currently sits.
- Consider re-piping if you have recurring pipe issues.
- Invest in a leak detection or automatic shut-off device.
- Hydronic boilers can be a good two solution option.

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A.O. Smith - Manufactured in  -  - 

Popular Products: Electric, Gas, Hybrid, Tankless, Solar

Key Features:

- Extensive lineup
- Advanced technology
- Wide availability

Best for: Homeowners needing variety and high-efficiency options

Bosch - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Electric Tankless, Hybrid, Hydronic

Key Features:

- High-quality
- Compact and Efficient
- Excellent Warranty

Best for: Consumers prioritizing reliability and design

Bradford-White - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas, Electric, Tankless, Hybrid, Hydronic

Key Features:

- Plumber-exclusive brand
- High-quality
- Long warranties

Best for: Reliable, traditional models purchased via professionals

EcoSmart - Manufactured in  - 

Popular Products: Electric Tankless

Key Features:

- Compact
- Energy-efficient
- Digital control

Best for: Small homes, condos, or energy-conscious buyers

GE Appliances - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas, Electric

Key Features:

- Familiar branding
- Smart connectivity options
- Newer models made in the U.S.

Best for: Buyers wanting appliance brand cohesion

Navien - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas Tankless, Hydronic

Key Features:

- Condensing tankless systems
- Ultra-high efficiency
- Wi-Fi capable

Best for: Homeowners needing compact, ultra-efficient heating and hot water combo systems

Cont. 

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Noritz - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas Tankless

Key Features:

- Durable
- Compact
- Trusted by professionals

Best for: Smaller households needing low-footprint gas tankless systems

Rheem-Ruud - Manufactured in  - 

Popular Products: Gas, Electric, Hybrid, Tankless

Key Features:

- Brand known for reliability
- Smart models
- Extensive HVAC and water technology

Best for: Whole-home HVAC integration and efficient hybrid setups

Rinnai - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas Tankless, Hydronic Combi-Boilers

Key Features:

- Tankless leader
- Recirculation options
- Compact units

Best for: Efficient on-demand water heating in high-use homes

State - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas, Electric, Hybrid, Tankless

Key Features:

- A.O. Smith owned
- High-quality
- Wide distribution

Best for: Buyers wanting dependable performance with A. O. Smith support

Takagi - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas Tankless

Key Features:

- High-efficiency
- Compact Design
- Ideal for retrofits

Best for: Energy-efficient, space-saving gas setups

Thermo2000 - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Electric Tankless, Hydronic Combo Units

Key Features:

- Made in Canada
- Wall-mounted systems
- Hydronic & electric tankless

Best for: Homes with hydronic heating or all-electric systems seeking compact solutions

Cont. 

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Whirlpool - Manufactured in 

Popular Products: Gas, Electric

Key Features:

- Major appliance brand
- Available in retail
- Familiar controls

Best for: Mainstream users seeking trusted brand options