

I'm not robot  reCAPTCHA

**Continue**

## What setting should my rheem water heater be on

Did you know that finding the right water heater settings can save you a ton of money? Indeed, while most people don't give their hot water heater settings any thought whatsoever, they're actually quite important. Not only will it save you money, but it'll also make your showers more comfortable as well. Let's take a look at the steps. Default Hot Water Heater Settings Can Vary Water heaters in Phoenix often come with default temperature settings as high as 140 degrees Fahrenheit. That's way higher than most people need but manufacturers do it for a number of reasons. For one, according to the Department of Energy, bacteria can't survive in water that hot. For consumers suffering from decreased immune function or respiratory diseases, high gas or electric water heater settings can be useful. Of course, high temperatures can also impress consumers who likely just replaced their tank because the old one stopped working properly. Once this psychological gimmick wears off, though (and assuming you don't have a disease that makes you particularly prone to bacteria), you'll probably derive far more satisfaction from saving money on your water bill, which we'll show you how to do next. How Much Are Your Gas and Electric Hot Water Heater Temperature Settings Costing You? As a general rule, for every 20 degrees you lower your gas or electric water heater settings, you'll save as much as 10% on your bill. That's not bad at all! In fact, it really adds up over time and you can surely think of several better uses for that money. "But wait," you might be thinking. "I love hot showers!" That's fair – but you almost certainly don't take showers at 140 degrees Fahrenheit, which actually poses a scalding risk. You likely won't even notice the change. Even if you do, turning the temperature back up is easy. It might even cause old hot water heaters to stop working. How To Adjust Your Gas and Electric Hot Water Heater Temperature Settings Now that you know why you should lower your water heater's temperature, let's look at how to go about doing this. Step One: Get An Accurate Temperature Reading The thermostat dial connected to your water heater tank is likely unreliable. As such, you should actually measure the water coming out of your faucet with a thermometer. The Department of Energy recommends measuring the water coming out of the faucet that lies furthest from your water heater. Once you get the setting, make note of it. Step Two: Figure Out Where to Make the Adjustment Different types of water heaters have different adjustment methods so we'll look at each of them individually. Electric Water Heater Settings For electric water heaters, you need to adjust the hot water settings at the top and bottom. Both controls will usually be hidden behind a panel and consist of knobs that you turn to the desired electric water heater thermostat settings. Gas Water Heater Settings Newer gas water heaters have temperature controls similar to what we mentioned above in the section on electric units. Some older gas heaters, however, have a temperature knob near their base that you can simply turn to the desired temperature. Tankless Water Heater Settings Lastly, we have tankless water heaters. This is perhaps the easiest adjustment of all as there's usually an LED panel where you can directly adjust the temperature. These systems are handy because they often allow you to adjust the tankless water heater settings more precisely than with dial-based adjustment systems. Step Three: Make The Adjustments If you have an electric unit, make sure you disconnect its electrical power before adjusting the hot water heater settings at the top and bottom as we outlined previously. You can do this by switching the appropriate controls off at your circuit breaker. You should also do this if you have a gas water heater that uses some electricity (as some newer units do). But wait! What temperature should you set it to? The Department of Energy recommends setting your heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. That should be plenty hot enough for most uses in your home. Now, some water heater temperature controls come with settings that read "A-B-C" as opposed to numbers. Generally, A means 120 degrees, B means 130 degrees, and C means 140 degrees. Refer to your water heater's manual to confirm these settings. Step Four: Tweak the Settings as Necessary After you've adjusted your gas or electric water heater thermostat settings, you may find that you need to tweak them once or twice to find the optimal setting. You want to find the right balance between comfort and frugality. If that's higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit for you, no shame there. Adjust away! Frequently Asked Questions Is 150 Too Hot For A Water Heater? A temperature setting of 150 degrees is almost certainly too hot for your water heater. At that temperature, you're very likely to experience scalding. This is a significant danger to your children, who may play with the faucet temperature settings, unaware of the danger, and end up scalding themselves unintentionally. What Is The Maximum Temperature For A Water Heater? For most water heaters, the maximum temperature setting is 150 degrees. Is 140 Too Hot For A Water Heater? For most people, yes, 140 degrees Fahrenheit is too hot. The exception would be people who need an extra layer of protection from bacteria, which can't survive in water at that temperature. Such a condition doesn't protect you from scalding, though, so you'll likely still need to install an apparatus at the showerhead that cools the water down before it comes out. Why Is My Water So Hot? If you've never adjusted your hot water heater settings, they're likely still at the manufacturer default of 140 degrees. This is especially true if you've only recently had your hot water heater installed; the old one was likely adjusted at some point over the years, whereas the new one is at its default. 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 Heaters The 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 Heaters Gas-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 Heaters Tankless 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 Thermostats All 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 Safety Tank-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

