



Water Heater Components/ Requirements

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Water Heater Components

Vent Flue Pipe: This pipe removes the combustion gases like carbon monoxide. Double wall-type vent pipes require a minimum of 1-inch clearance from all combustible material such as drywall or wood. All single wall pipe requires a min. of 6 inches. Every gravity-type vent pipe system along any horizontal run must rise at a minimum of 1/4 inch per foot.

Seismic Straps: As of 1996 water heaters are required to be strapped and/or braced from horizontal movement.

TPR Valve: (Temperature Pressure Relief Valve) An automatic safety device limiting the water temperature inside the tank to a maximum 210degrees Fahrenheit and/or a maximum water pressure of 150 psi.

TPR Pipe: must be rated for the excessive pressure and temperatures. Pipe must be a metallic type unless otherwise rated. ④ A: The TPR pipe is required to terminate outside the house and end in a downward position. In some cities the garage may be considered outside the house.

Hot / Cold Water Supply: are the pipes which supply the hot / cold water. It is recommended to insulate the first few feet of the cold pipe and the entire hot pipe from the water heater for energy conservation.

Cold Water Supply Shut-off Valve: The cold water supply is required to have a shut-off valve at the water heater.

Combustion Air Supply: is required if you have a gas-type water heater. A minimum of 100 square inches is required and to be divided 50% high (near the top of the unit) and 50% low (near the bottom of the unit). If the water heater is located in a garage or a room large enough, additional combustion air from an outside source is not required (i.e. an average 40 gallon 35,000 btu water heater requires a minimum room size of approx. 15 feet x 15 feet and 8 feet high).

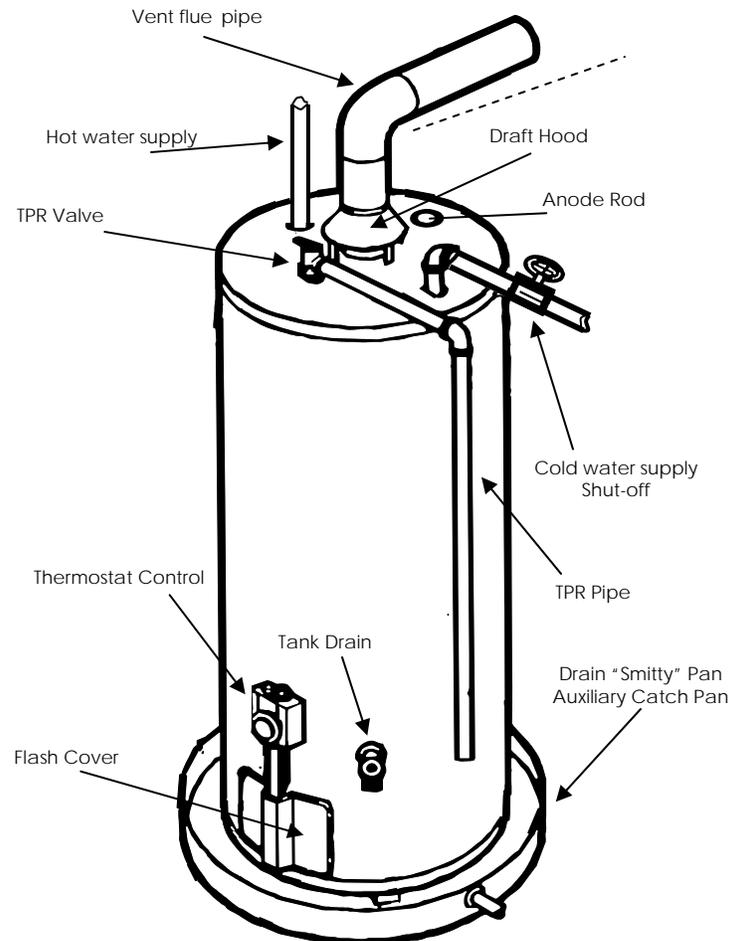
Flexible Gas Line: is the metal flexible pipe supplying gas to the water heater (copper piping is not recommended).

Thermostat Control: controls the temperature of the water in the tank. The maximum temperature should not exceed 125degrees Fahrenheit if children are not in the house and a maximum of 103 if children are living in the home.

Fire Box: is where the flame heats the water. No rust or soot buildup should be present.

Platform: If the water heater is located in the garage the flame/ignition source must be a minimum of 18 inches off the floor.

Draft Hood: is designed to allow cool air to enter the vent system producing a properly engineered draft.



Maintenance

A. It is recommended that you drain your water heater an average of once a year to help relieve the sediment buildup in the bottom of the tank. You should also have the Gas Co. check the gas and flame annually.

Is A Permit Required?

B. "It shall be unlawful for any person to install or replace any water heater without first obtaining a permit from the Administrative Authority..."(i.e. City/ County) Uniform Plumbing Code [1303]