

Insulate an Electric Domestic Water Heater

Job Aid for Insulate a Water Heater Tank and First Six Feet of Pipes Badge

Aligns With Standard Work Specifications 7.0301.2



Check data plate and warning label to find existing tank insulation level and confirm additional insulation is not prohibited by the manufacturer.



Insulate tank with minimum R-10 or better to achieve desired R-value, which will be a combination of the existing tank insulation and the newly added insulation.



Ensure a continuous vapor barrier with no gaps and mark for cutout locations of any access panels or safety features such as the temperature and pressure relief valve.



Do not obstruct temperature and pressure relief valve.



Carefully wrap the insulation around the water heater, and tape the seam and edges. Secure the insulation in place with plastic ties and avoid cinching them so tightly that the insulation is compressed.



With access panel flaps cut and labeled, a properly insulated water heater reduces standby losses while allowing access to the water heater control panels.



Checklist

Insulate a water heater tank and the first six feet of pipes

DESIRED OUTCOME

Improved thermal performance of the water heating and delivery system.¹

Water heater storage tank is insulated to achieve overall tank R-value of R-10.2
Added insulation does not obstruct the unit's:
Pressure relief valve.
☐ Thermostats or other controls.
Access plates.
The first 6 feet of accessible inlet and outlet pipes are insulated so that coverage is complete and secure.
Pipe insulation is correct size.
Pipe insulation seams are sealed.

1. Relevant Standards: 7.0301.2

2. If variance request has been approved, replace this with approved figure.



For more information, visit: energy.gov/eere/wap

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