

Your hot water heater is essential to having a comfortable standard of living inside your home. Without one, it is nearly impossible to do any of the things necessary for eating, bathing, or cleaning. That's why having a unit that is in tip-top shape is essential. Getting an upgrade is cost-efficient, and newer models run better on less energy, so they aren't as expensive as you may think. Sometimes, minor repairs are all that you need to fix yours, but there are some signs that it is time for a new hot water heater.

- **It is old**

The most obvious one. Check to see how old it is. If you have a conventional unit that is over 10 years old, then it might be time to get a new one. Even though it could still be working properly, older models are very inefficient and are probably going to break down soon. A new one can save you 20% on your energy bills over the life of the unit, so make this decision wisely.

- **Fluctuations in temperature**

If you turn on the shower and get scolding hot water followed by ice cold water, then something isn't right. Check the other areas of your home too. Try the kitchen sink, and see if the water changes temperature often. If it does, that means that your heater is on its way out. A newer model wouldn't be doing this. Not only is it bad for your energy bills, but it could also lead to burns on your body. Don't mess around with your health. Get the pros to come take a look.

- **Long wait times**

While nothing is going to work instantly, if you have to wait several minutes for the water to heat up, then it is a sign that you need a new heater. You should get the water that you want quickly, and conveniently. This won't necessarily cause you anything except inconvenience, but it will begin to cost you money very quickly, and could end up in the heater completely malfunctioning. You don't want to be stuck inside without hot water for too long. Get an inspection, and see if it is time to upgrade.

Your heater is absolutely essential to life inside your home. Without one, you wouldn't be able to clean yourself, your clothing, or dishes, and you would live a pretty miserable existence while at home. Nobody wants that. You might need simple repairs, or you might need to get something new. These are the signs that it is time for a new hot water heater. Our pros know the ins and outs of [water heater installation](#) and can help guide you in the right direction.