

General Water Heater Information

- The Atwood Water Heater is designed for recreation vehicles.
- To function properly, the water system and water heater must be turned on.
- Periodically* check gas pressure; it should read a minimum of 11 inches of water column (with at least 50% of BTU demand on system).
- The use of Manufacturers' Aftermarket Heating Element devices (Hot Rods, etc.) may result in damage to components or water heater and will void the warranty.
- Periodically* drain and flush water heater.
- Before storing RV, always drain and flush the water heater.
- An undrained water heater tank will crack in freezing conditions.

** Periodically: At least once each camping season, more often if you camp frequently.*

For questions, please contact the Atwood Service Department at 1-866-869-3118 and ask for a Service Technician.

Altering Atwood Water Heaters

If the water heater has been altered the warranty will be void.

Use of Aftermarket Heating Element Devices (Hot Rods) can lead to an out of control heating of water in the tank and a catastrophic wet side explosion. These devices lack critical safety controls. Personal damage and product damage may result. Aftermarket heating element devices are not necessary with an Atwood Water Heater and will void the warranty.

Atwood water heater tanks are constructed of a high strength aluminum. The interior of the tank consists of a .0015 thickness of type 7072 aluminum (pure aluminum and zinc) that is fused to the core during the rolling process. This material protects the tanks from the effects of heavy metals and salts found in waters throughout the country. It is anodic to these heavy metals and acts much like an anode in a steel glass lined tank except it will last much longer. Aftermarket Anode Rods are not required and should not be used and will void warranty.

For more information contact your dealer/distributor at:



Atwood's website also has information on a wide variety of products available, including: water heaters, furnaces, ranges, cooktops, ventilation, refrigerators, air conditioners, chassis components including jacks, couplers, hitch balls, 5th wheel systems, and more. To learn more visit Atwood online, at:

www.askforatwood.com

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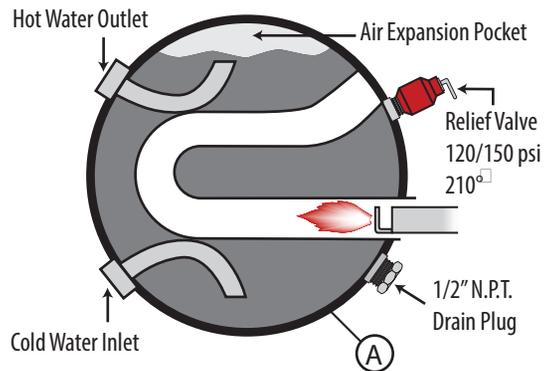


Atwood
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Elkhart, IN 46514

Care & Maintenance for your Atwood® Water Heater



Preventative Maintenance

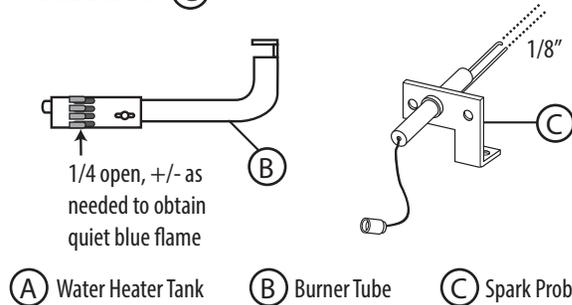


Pilot Models

- Periodically* clear all obstructions in Burner Orifice and Pilot Assembly (dirt, spider webs, etc.).
- Periodically* clean Burner Tube with small brush.
- Check air adjustment of Burner Tube. Position the air (B) shutter 1/4 of the way open (blue flame should be fairly quiet with small traces of yellow.)
- Check Pilot Orifice for contamination. The Pilot flame will be low if it needs to be cleaned. If cleaning does not remedy, replace the pilot assembly.

Electronic Ignition Models

- Periodically* clear all obstructions in Burner Orifice (dirt, spider webs, etc.).
- Check air adjustment of Burner Tube. (B) Position the air shutter 1/4 of the way open (blue flame should be fairly quiet with small traces of yellow.)
- Check alignment of Burner to the Orifice. (Gas coming out of the orifice should go straight down the middle of the Burner Tube.)
- Check Electrode for cracked porcelain.
- Check the gap between the Sparking Probe and the Ground Probe. It should be 1/8". (C)



(A) Water Heater Tank (B) Burner Tube (C) Spark Probe

*Periodically: At least once each camping season, more often if you camp frequently.

Flushing & Winterizing Water Heater Tank

To insure the best performance of your water heater and add to the life of the tank, periodically* drain and flush the water heater tank. Before long term storage or freezing weather drain and flush the tank.

1. Turn off main water supply (the pump or water hook up source).
2. Drain Water Heater Tank by removing the drain plug. If the water flows sporadically or trickles instead of a steady stream of water, we recommend the following action; first open the Pressure Temperature Relief Valve to allow air into the tank and secondly, take a small gauge wire or coat hanger and poke through the drain opening to eliminate any obstructions.
3. After draining the tank, because of the placement of the Drain Plug, approximately two quarts of water will remain in the tank. This water contains most of the harmful corrosive particles.

To remove these harmful corrosive particles flush the tank with either air or water. Whether using air or water pressure, it may be applied through the inlet or outlet on the rear of the tank or the Pressure Temperature Relief Valve. (If using the Pressure Temperature Relief Valve the Support Flange must be removed). The pressure will force out the remaining water and the corrosive particles.

If you use water pressure, pump fresh water into the tank with the assistance of the on-board pump or use external water for 90 seconds to allow the fresh water to agitate the stagnant water on the bottom of the tank and force deposits through the drain opening. Continue adding water and draining until the particles have been cleared from the water remaining in the tank.

4. Leave the Drain Plug out and close the Pressure Temperature Relieve Valve. The approximately two quarts of water remaining in the tank after draining will not cause damage to the tank should freezing occur.

Unpleasant Odors

A "rotten egg odor" (hydrogen sulfide) may be produced when the electro galvanic action of the cladding material releases hydrogen from the water. If sulfur is present in the water supply the two will combine and produce an unpleasant smell.

1. Turn off main water supply. Drain the water heater tank and reinstall drain plug. Remove the pressure-temperature relief valve. Mix solution of four (4) parts white vinegar to two (2) parts water. (For a 10 gallon tank, use six (6) gallons vinegar to four (4) gallons water). With a funnel, carefully pour solution into tank.
2. Cycle water heater with the above solution, letting it run under normal operation 4-5 times.
3. Remove the drain plug and thoroughly drain all water from the tank. Flush the water heater to remove any sediment. You may flush the tank with air pressure or fresh water. Pressure may be applied through either the inlet or outlet valves on the rear of the tank or through the pressure-temperature relief valve coupling located on the front of the unit.

To flush tank with air pressure:

Insert your air pressure through the pressure-temperature relief valve coupling. With the drain valve open, the air pressure will force the remaining water out of the unit.

To flush tank with water pressure:

Fresh water should be pumped into the tank with either the onboard pump or external water pressure. Continue this flushing process for approximately five minutes, allowing the fresh water to agitate the stagnant water on the bottom of the tank and forcing the deposits through the drain opening.

4. Replace drain plug and pressure-temperature relief valve.
5. Refill tank with fresh water that contains no sulphur.

The Atwood water heater is designed for use in a Recreation Vehicle. If you use your vehicle frequently or for long periods of time, flushing the water heater several times a year will prolong the life of the storage tank.

Dripping Pressure Temperature Relief Valve

Weeping or dripping of a pressure-temperature relief valve while the water heater is running DOES NOT mean it is defective. This is normal expansion of water as it is heated in the closed water system of a recreation vehicle. The Atwood water heater tank is designed with an internal air gap at the tank to reduce the possibility of weeping and dripping. In time, the expanding water will absorb this air. To replace the air follow these steps:

To restore the air:

1. Turn off water heater.
2. Turn off incoming water supply.
3. Open the closest hot water faucet in the coach.
4. Pull handle of pressure-temperature relief valve straight out and allow water to flow until it stops.
5. Allow pressure-temperature relief valve to snap shut, close the faucet then turn on the water supply.