

# Water Heater Buying Guide



Finding The Right Fit For Your Home



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01

# Why Choosing The Right Water Heater Matters

# Take The Guesswork Out Of Buying

Nobody thinks about their water heater... until something goes wrong. Cold showers, skyrocketing energy bills, weird noises, gurgles, pops, etc.—sound familiar?

## Not All Water Heaters Are Created Equal.

The right system can:

- ✓ Save you money on energy bills by running efficiently.
- ✓ Last longer with fewer repairs and maintenance headaches.
- ✓ Provide enough hot water for your household's needs—without running out.
- ✓ Fit your home's space and utility setup without expensive modifications.



With so many water heater options— tank, tankless, hybrid—it's easy to feel overwhelmed.

## This Guide Will Help You:

- ✓ Understand your options without getting lost in technical jargon.
- ✓ Avoid common mistakes that lead to wasted money and frustration.
- ✓ Make the best choice for your home.

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02

# Signs Your Water Heater Needs To Be Examined By A Professional

# Weird Noises? Lukewarm Showers?

Here's what your water heater is trying to tell you.

Your water heater won't last forever, but it will warn you before it quits—if you know what to look for. Catching these early signs can save you from an emergency breakdown, costly repairs, or even water damage.

Call Jake Before  
It's Too Late!

## Watch Out For These Warning Signs:



### Rumbling or popping noises

That's not your house settling—it's sediment buildup making your water heater work overtime. Left unchecked, this can lead to overheating and failure.



### Leaks around the base

Even a slow drip can lead to major water damage over time.



### Rust-colored or murky water

If your hot water looks like it came from a rusty pipe, your tank may be corroding from the inside.



### Rising energy bills

An inefficient water heater works harder to do the same job, which means higher utility costs.



### Slow or inconsistent hot water

If your showers are cooling off too soon, your heating element could be on its way out.



### Your unit is over 5-7 years old

Most water heaters start declining around this age, especially if they haven't been properly maintained.

## Noticing one or more of these signs?

Don't wait for cold showers or a flooded utility room. Call Jake Miller Plumbing for an inspection—we'll let you know if you need a repair or an upgrade.



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03

Water Heater Types

# Pros & Cons

# Tank Or Tankless? Find The Right Fit For Your Home.



## Traditional Tank Water Heaters

**How They Work:** Stores and heats a set amount of water in a tank, refilling as needed.

### Pros:

- ✓ Lower upfront cost and easy to install.
- ✓ Works well for most homes with predictable hot water usage.

### Cons:

- ✗ Higher energy costs—keeps heating water even when you're not using it.
- ✗ Limited hot water supply—once the tank is empty, you have to wait for it to refill.
- ✗ Takes up more space than other options.

Best For: Homeowners looking for a lower-cost solution and have space for a storage tank.

## Here's What You Need To Know

Choosing the right water heater comes down to three key factors: cost, efficiency, and performance. Some models are budget-friendly but less efficient, while others require a bigger upfront investment but save money in the long run.



## Tankless Water Heaters

**How They Work:** Heats water only when you need it—no storage tank required.

Best For: Homeowners who want energy savings, more space, and unlimited hot water.

### Pros:

- ✓ Endless hot water—no waiting for a tank to refill.
- ✓ More energy-efficient since it only heats water when needed.
- ✓ Smaller footprint—frees up space in your home.
- ✓ Longer lifespan—typically lasts 5-10 years longer than traditional tanks.

### Cons:

- ✗ Higher upfront cost for the unit and installation.
- ✗ May require an upgraded gas or electrical system.



# Other Options

## Hybrid Water Heater

Uses a heat pump and a tank to maximize efficiency. Great for high-usage homes, but costs more upfront.

## Solar Water Heaters

Runs on solar energy, making it the most eco-friendly choice. Works best for homeowners already using solar power.

## Point-of-Use Heaters

Small electric units that provide hot water to a specific area (great for guest bathrooms or additions).

**Find Your Perfect Match Today!**



## What's The Best Choice For You?

- ✓ **Want the lowest upfront cost?**  
Go with a traditional tank water heater.
- ✓ **Need endless hot water & better efficiency?**  
Consider a tankless system.
- ✓ **Want the most energy-efficient option?**  
A hybrid or solar system may be the way to go.

Still not sure? Jake Miller Plumbing can help you find the right water heater for your home & budget.

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04

Installation

# DIY vs. Professional

# What Could Go Wrong? A Lot.

Installing a water heater might seem like a weekend DIY project, but it's not as simple as swapping out a dishwasher or painting a room. A mistake here can lead to serious safety hazards, expensive repairs, voided warranties, and even be deadly.

## The Risks Of DIY Installation

Before you grab your toolbox, here's what you need to know.



### Gas Leaks & Fire Hazards

If gas connections aren't sealed correctly, you're looking at a serious fire or explosion risk.



### Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Poor venting on gas-powered units can push dangerous fumes into your home.



### Water Damage & Flooding

A small leak in the installation can turn into a disaster, ruining floors, walls, and anything nearby.



### Electrical Shock & Code Violations

Tankless water heaters often require upgraded electrical wiring—one mistake can lead to serious injury or failing a home inspection.



### Voided Warranties & Costly Mistakes

Many manufacturers require professional installation to keep your warranty valid. If something goes wrong, you're paying out of pocket.



## Why Professional Installation Is Worth It



### Proper Sizing & Setup

Ensures you get a water heater that fits your home's needs —no more running out of hot water.



### Code Compliance & Safety

A licensed plumber ensures everything is up to code, so you don't run into issues if you sell your home.



### Warranty Protection

Professional installation keeps your manufacturer's warranty intact, saving you money if repairs are needed.



### Long-Term Savings

A correctly installed unit runs more efficiently, lasts longer, and requires fewer repairs.

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05

# Common Water Heater Mistakes Homeowners Make

# 4 Mistakes That Cost Thousands

A water heater is a major investment, and the wrong choices can lead to higher energy bills, constant repairs, and even safety hazards. Here are the biggest mistakes homeowners make—and how to avoid them.

01

## Buying the Wrong Size

Water heaters aren't one-size-fits-all. A system that's too small leaves your family shivering in cold showers. A unit that's too big wastes energy, leading to higher utility bills every month.

02

## Ignoring Routine Maintenance

Water heaters need regular flushing, pressure checks, and inspections to keep running efficiently. Without maintenance, you could be looking at:

- ⚠ Sediment buildup that reduces efficiency and causes overheating.
- ⚠ Corrosion and rust that lead to leaks.
- ⚠ Sudden breakdowns right when you need hot water the most.

03

## Trusting the Cheapest Installer

Not all installations are equal. Hiring an unlicensed or inexperienced installer can lead to:

- ⚠ Inefficient performance—leading to higher energy bills.
- ⚠ Leaks or pressure issues—causing long-term damage.
- ⚠ Voided warranties—leaving you with no coverage if something goes wrong.

04

## Waiting Too Long to Replace an Aging Unit

Water heaters don't last forever. If yours is 10+ years old, waiting for it to fail can leave you scrambling for a costly, last-minute replacement.



## The Best Way To Avoid These Mistakes? Work With A Trusted Professional.

Jake Miller Plumbing helps homeowners choose, install, and maintain their water heaters the right way—so you never have to worry about cold showers or surprise breakdowns.





06

# The Smart Homeowner's Next Steps

# The Right Water Heater. The Right Plumber. No Surprises.

Choosing and installing a water heater shouldn't be stressful—and with the right plumber, it won't be. At Jake Miller Plumbing, we make the process simple, safe, and hassle-free, so you get reliable hot water without the headaches.

Ready for Reliable  
Hot Water? Let's Talk.



## Why Homeowners Trust Jake Miller Plumbing



### Expert Installations

Done right the first time, with no leaks, no cold showers, and no callbacks.



### Upfront Pricing

No surprises, no gimmicks—just honest pricing and quality work.



### Plumber For Life Membership

Get annual checkups, priority service, and exclusive discounts to keep your water heater running like new.



### Licensed & Insured Professionals

Peace of mind knowing your home is in safe, experienced hands.

For A Limited Time

# Snag These Exclusive Water Heater Coupons

Don't Risk A DIY Disaster!



## Get Professional Installation And Exclusive Savings



Want Even More Savings?

## Join Jake's Plumber For Life Program

Never worry about hot water problems again—exclusive discounts, priority service, & preventive maintenance.



**Join TODAY & Always Save 10%**