1. Before performing any maintenance it is important to turn off the gas supply to the water heater at the manual gas shut-off valve. This valve is typically located beside the water heater. Note the position of the shut-off valve in the open/on position then proceed to turn it off.

2. On the lower front of the water heater locate the combination gas control valve/thermostat. (See Figure 1) Depress and hold the lock tab located under the gas control knob on the right. Rotate the gas control knob on the combination gas control valve/thermostat clockwise until "OFF" aligns with the mark on the front of the gas valve. Once the gas supply has been shut off, remove the outer door. (See Figure 1)

3. Using a 1/4" nut driver or socket loosen the two screws securing the manifold door assembly until they are free. Do not totally remove the screws and plastic retainer washers from the manifold door. The screws and retainer washers will be needed to reattach the manifold door. (See Figure 1)

4. In this step, the thermocouple, manifold tube, pilot tube and igniter wire will be disconnected from the combination gas control valve/thermostat. (See Figure 2) Using a 7/16" wrench disconnect the thermocouple (left-hand thread) and pilot tube (right-hand thread). Using a 3/4" wrench disconnect the manifold tube (left-hand thread). Carefully pull the igniter wire from the igniter button.

5. Grasp the manifold tube and push down slightly to free the manifold tube, pilot tube, and thermocouple from the combination gas control valve/thermostat. Carefully remove the manifold assembly from the burner compartment. BE SURE NOT TO DAMAGE INTERNAL PARTS.

6. With the manifold assembly removed, use a brush (a toothbrush works well) and/or vacuum to clean the flame arrestor both top and bottom. (See Figure 3) It is important to clean inside the combustion chamber and underneath the water heater. In lint/dust prone areas such as laundry rooms, it is recommended that the Filter Accessory Kit (part number: 6910609 or 6910610) be installed. NOTE: Anytime maintenance is performed on the combustion chamber it is recommended that the flame arrestor be cleaned inside and out.

7. Once the manifold assembly is removed from the water heater, locate the retainer clip securing the two-piece wire connector to the manifold door. (Note the orientation of the retainer clip). Insert the tip of a large flat head screwdriver between the clip and the top of the two-piece wire connector. (See Figure 4) Carefully rotate the screwdriver to raise the clip.

8. With the retainer clip removed carefully push the two-piece wire connector through the manifold door. It may be necessary to slide the connector out one piece at a time. Keep the two-piece wire connector and retainer clip for re-installation.

Kit Contents: 1 Thermocouple, 2 Thermocouple Clips, & 1 #8-32 Nut

IMPORTANT: For correct water heater operation, it is essential that the thermocouple assembly be properly installed. If you lack the necessary skills to properly perform the installation, you should not proceed, but get help from a qualified service technician.

THERMOCOUPLE REPLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS - L.P. GAS MODELS

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

6510345
February 2005
9. Once the two-piece wire connector is removed, locate the clip securing the thermocouple to the pilot bracket. (See Figure 5) Some models do not have a clip. Depending on your model, the clip may be attached with a screw or held with a nut. Remove and keep the screw or nut for re-attachment.

10. Turn the manifold assembly over and locate the thermocouple where it is inserted into the pilot assembly. Carefully pull the thermocouple from the pilot assembly. (See Figure 6) Once the thermocouple is disconnected from the pilot assembly, it may now be removed from the manifold door assembly.

11. If your new thermocouple is pre-bent to the shape on page 4 then skip to step 12. If your new thermocouple is coiled then use the bending template on page 4 as a guide to carefully bend the new thermocouple supplied with the kit. When bending, do not kink or crease the thermocouple. It is essential for the proper operation of the water heater that the thermocouple be bent smoothly without kinks or creases.

12. Insert the tip of the thermocouple through the hole in the front of the manifold door and route it in the same configuration as the old thermocouple. It is essential for the proper operation of the water heater that the thermocouple be routed correctly.

13. Insert the thermocouple tip into the hole provided in the pilot assembly. Then push the thermocouple completely forward until it is seated against the pilot assembly bracket. (See Figure 7) An audible click is typically heard when the thermocouple is fully seated. IMPORTANT: The thermocouple must be fully seated.

14. Secure the thermocouple clip to the pilot bracket. (See Figure 8) Place the curved section of the thermocouple clip over the thermocouple. Then depending on your model, align the hole in the thermocouple clip with the hole on the pilot bracket or over the screw threads securing the pilot assembly to the pilot bracket. See figure 8 for correct placement of the thermocouple clip. If your water heater does not have a clip, reference the table below to determine the correct clip to use.

**Thermocouple Clip Table:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This clip will fit the following models:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 gallon (Tall)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 gallon (Short &amp; Tall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 gallon (Tall)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Reference the model number on your data plate for a T or S indicating a Tall or Short model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This clip will fit the following model:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 gallon (Short)*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Reference the model number on your data plate for a T or S indicating a Tall or Short model.

*Clip is secured with a nut supplied in kit.*
15. Reinstall the two-piece wire connector in the manifold door. The igniter wire must be seated above the thermocouple in the two-piece wire connector. It may be necessary to insert the connector one side at a time. Once both sides of the two-piece wire connector are in place, secure it with the retainer clip.

16. Carefully insert the manifold assembly into the combustion chamber making sure that the tip of the manifold assembly engages with the slot in the bracket inside the combustion chamber. (See Figure 9) Once seated make sure there is no fiberglass insulation between the gasket and the combustion chamber.

17. Securely tighten the two screws that hold the manifold door assembly to the skirt.

18. In this step the thermocouple, manifold tube, pilot tube, and igniter wire must be reconnected to the combination gas control valve/thermostat. (See Figure 10) Using a 3/4” wrench (left-hand thread) reconnect the manifold tube. Reconnect the thermocouple (left-hand thread) using a 7/16” wrench. NOTE: When connecting the thermocouple tighten by hand, then use a wrench to tighten one-quarter turn only. Reconnect the pilot tube (right-hand thread) using a 7/16” wrench. NOTE: Do not cross thread or apply any thread sealant to the fittings. Reconnect the igniter wire to the igniter button.

19. Turn the gas supply on at the manual gas shut-off valve, and refer to the lighting instructions on the outside of the water heater. Check for leaks using a chloride-free soap and water solution (bubbles forming indicate a leak) or other approved method. Do not use open flame. ALL LEAKS MUST BE FIXED IMMEDIATELY. Ensure proper operation of the water heater and reattach outer door.
**THERMOCOUPLE BENDING TEMPLATE INSTRUCTIONS**

**COILED CONFIGURATION**

**FIRST BEND**

**PREBENT CONFIGURATION**

**SECOND BEND**

**NOTE:** THERMOCOUPLE MUST NOT BE BENT IN THIS LOCATION.

**NOTE:** DO NOT CUT OR TRIM LENGTH OF THERMOCOUPLE. LOWER SECTION OF THERMOCOUPLE IMAGE MODIFIED TO ACCOMMODATE PAGE SIZE.

**NOTE:** THIS SECTION OF THE PREBENT THERMOCOUPLE MAY BE UN-COILED TO ACCOMMODATE INSTALLATION.