



Technical Bulletin

Insulation Blankets

Models Affected: All

During times of rising fuel costs, homeowners tend to be more energy conscious. Water heater blankets are often considered for heat loss and conservation purposes.

Blankets for older fiberglass insulated electric heaters make sense, especially since electricity is a much more expensive than gas. Most electric heaters insulated with foam (R 8.33 or higher) meet ASHRAE standards for performance (efficiency and standby loss) when tested according to Department of Energy procedures.

Most experts agree that heat loss in a gas water heater goes up the flue. Therefore a blanket accomplishes no purpose.

Some local codes and utility company regulations may prohibit insulation blankets. Often, the homeowner has good intentions but unknowingly creates hazards by:

- Covering safety warnings and operating instructions. (These labels are not to be removed from the heater and placed on the blanket or elsewhere).
- Covering controls, access areas, shut off devices, temperature and pressure relief valves, etc.
- Blocking air passages required for combustion or draft resulting in unsafe operation.

Consequently, the water heater manufacturer does disclaim any liability for problems associated with the use of insulation blankets.

If you have any questions or concerns related to insulation blankets, contact our Product Service & Support Department immediately at:

1-800-999-9515