

# Flooded water heater

<http://waterheatertimer.org/Flooded-water-heater.html>

Manufactures recommend replacing water heater that has been flooded.

Caution: **Do not touch water heater that has been flooded.**

Household grounding wire connects to water pipes, and you can be exposed to live current by touching water heater that was wet or is wet.

**Turn off all power** and remove water heater from premises.

Water inside heater will soak the insulation, and it will not dry.



Electric water heater: the insulation will not dry without covers located on side of tank being removed, but thermostats will not read correct temperature without the covers installed.

Gas water heater: it is possible to restore functionality by cleaning/replacing burner and burner tubes, and cleaning air intake, but gas control valve can need replacement also.

Resettable ECO must be replaced if present, and the FVIR system replaced.

The cost of do-it-yourself part replacement is usually more than cost of new heater, and off-the-shelf parts might not be available locally or available quickly.

People report they cleaned all the parts after a flood, and unit still didn't work.

<http://waterheatertimer.org/How-to-install-gas-water-heater.html#clean>

Recommended action: install new gas water heater yourself:

July 2011: Project costs \$350 and takes a few hours. Easier with a helper.

Local box store has everything needed.

Open following link for step-by-step.

<http://waterheatertimer.org/How-to-install-gas-water-heater.html>



Do not touch water heater that has been flooded until electricity is turned off

Offer 10% less when purchasing new water heater

Do-it-yourself installation takes 1 afternoon. Easier with a helper.

[Read how-to install gas water heater](#)

All brands of water heaters are good

[Water heater manufacturers](#)