Heat pump water heaters are the most efficient replacement option for standard electric water heaters. Use this best practices guide to ensure quality installations and satisfied customers.

**CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS**

- Consider your climate when choosing a heat pump water heater. Cool climates and warm climates may require different equipment and placement.
- Tier 2 and higher units are well suited for cooler climates; they operate in lower temperatures and can vent cool air to the outside.

**INSTALLATION LOCATION**

- Tier 1 units are well suited for unconditioned spaces.
- Tier 2 and higher units are suitable for both unconditioned and conditioned spaces.
- For all units, allow for minimum clearance requirements for proper airflow and accessibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location Type</th>
<th>TIER 1</th>
<th>TIER 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unconditioned space installation</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditioned space installation</td>
<td></td>
<td>✅</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 40-45 degree installation location</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation location &gt;1,000 cu ft (garage, etc.)</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation location &lt;1,000 cu ft (utility room)</td>
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<td>✅</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
GENERAL INSTALLATION TIPS

• Ensure unit is level.

• Drain condensate via a sloped drainage system or a condensate pump, or connect to plumbing drain; avoid creating a slip hazard over walkways.

• Below-freezing temperatures may affect condensation drainage.

• Avoid installing near bedrooms or living rooms; if unavoidable, consider installing noise-dampening features in the space if noise is a concern.

• Install unit to manufacturer’s specifications and local plumbing, electrical and building codes; obtain required licenses and permits, and verify local jurisdiction requirements. You can find this information at HotWaterSolutionsNW.org/requirements.

• Use pipe insulation to help maintain water temperature in unconditioned spaces.

• Refer to manufacturer’s specifications for information on available mode settings to maximize efficiency and homeowner satisfaction.

DUCTED INSTALLATION TIPS

• Refer to manufacturer’s specifications for ducting the exhaust and intake, as well as any applicable settings.

• Ensure a functioning carbon monoxide detector is placed near the primary sleeping area if a combustible appliance is present in the home.

• Protect unused duct attachment points.

• Install duct insulation and a vapor barrier (or use suitable plastic ducting) to prevent condensation formation on ductwork—especially in cooler climates.

• Terminate ducting outside the building or beyond attic insulation levels with appropriate ducting caps.

• Ensure ducting length is within the manufacturer’s guidelines.

HOMEOWNER EDUCATION

• Review temperature settings, controls, operation modes, and maintenance and clearance requirements with homeowner.

• Demonstrate filter access for manufacturer-recommended scheduled cleaning.

• Explain proper inspection and cleaning of condensate drain, and provide condensate pump maintenance information as applicable.

• Refer to manufacturer’s instructions for detailed operation and maintenance information.

• Provide contact information on the unit and a Hot Water Solutions homeowner’s guide.

Learn more at HotWaterSolutionsNW.org

DISCLAIMER: This document is to be used only as a general guide for providing quality installations. Review the manufacturer’s installation manual for complete information on product-specific installation requirements, features, benefits, operation and maintenance. Images of specific manufacturer product lines are not placed as endorsements, nor does this guide guarantee their quality.