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Is it Time to Replace Your Hot Water Tank?

When is it time to replace a hot water tank? This is a question that plumbing companies get asked every day. There is no clear answer, other than it is easier to replace a tank that has not burst than to repair the damage when it has leaked. Below is a list of "signs" to help you decide before it's too late.



- Water heater is leaking, but you can't see where

The most common sign that it's time to replace the hot water tank is that it is leaking. If your tank is more than 6 years old and is leaking, it's likely the tank has deteriorated to the point that it is leaking through a side-wall seam.

- Water is not as hot as it used to be

Reduced capacity is a problem that can develop over time with older water heaters, and in many circumstances you'd be better off switching to a new unit that operates more efficiently and effectively.

- You can't remember when the tank was installed

Have a look at the model and serial number to determine the age of the tank; the month and year the tank was manufactured is within the serial numbers. Most tanks have an 8-10 year life and you can do an internet search or call a plumbing company to decipher the serial number.