

Water heaters and fixtures shall meet efficiency criteria

To comply with DOE's Zero Energy Ready Home program, all installed water heaters and fixtures must meet certain efficiency criteria.

Water heaters and fixtures in single-family homes and in multifamily dwellings with their own independent water heater shall meet the following efficiency criteria:

- a. Gas water heaters, if present, shall have an Energy Factor \geq 0.90 or a Uniform Energy Factor \geq 0.87.
- b. Electric water heaters, if present, shall have an Energy Factor \geq 2.2 or a Uniform Energy Factor \geq 2.2.
- c. All showerheads and bathroom sink faucets shall be WaterSense labeled.
- d. The hot water distribution system shall store no more than 1.2 gallons between the hot water source and the furthest fixture. This shall be verified by either 1) a calculation using the piping or tubing interior diameter and the system length based on plans, or 2) by a field verification test, using the protocol described in Endnote 15, which demonstrates a minimum temperature rise of 10 °F by the time 1.4 gallons of water is delivered to the furthest hot water fixture.

These provisions do not apply to multifamily buildings with central hot water delivery systems. These project types must satisfy the Efficient Hot Water Distribution provision instead (see Endnote 15).

The following Solution Center guides provide more information about water heaters and water distribution system:

Water Heating:

[Heat Pump Water Heaters](#) [1]

This guide provides information about heat pump water heaters.

[Geothermal Heat Pumps](#) [2]

Guide providing information about geothermal (ground-source) heat pumps including an overview of technology and guidance on compliance and installation.

[Gas-Fired Tankless Water Heaters](#) [3]

Guide describing how to install a tankless hot water heater in a new or existing home to provide domestic hot water that is heated on demand without the standby losses associated with tank storage water heaters.

[Gas-Fired Boilers](#) [4]

Guide describing gas-fired boilers and hot water heat distribution systems used for home heating.

Faucets and Showerheads:

[Bathroom and Kitchen Faucets](#) [5]

Guide describing how to install WaterSense® labeled bathroom and kitchen sink faucets and accessories.

[Showerheads](#) [6]

Guide describing how to install WaterSense® labeled showerheads.

More Info.

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None Available

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