

6 Signs Your Hot Water System Might Need Replacing



As Australians, we love our hot water.

Its daily use in warm baths, those morning showers, our laundry, cleaning and cooking has become such an integral part of our lives that we all take it for granted. However, the warmth and comfort we enjoy when we turn on our taps is dependent upon our hot water systems.

Recognising the early indicators of a failing hot water system will be helpful in proactively addressing any repair or replacement issues – especially during the Winter season when we need hot water more than ever.

We asked our professional O'Brien Plumbing Members from around Australia about what to look out for and here is the list they came up with to help you.

6 Signs your hot water system may need replacing:

1. Your hot water system is old

A home hot water system generally lasts for around 8 to 10 years. You can simply check the age by looking at the manufacturer's sticker which is usually located on the upper portion of the unit.

Being mindful of the date allows you to pre-empt when your system may need replacing. A new unit may also be more efficient and help to reduce your monthly power bills.

2. Smelly, discoloured or rusty water

Discolouration and foul odours coming from your hot water tap (such as in the basin, bath or shower) may be caused by the presence of bacteria or rust inside your hot water system's tank. It can also be traced to a broken internal anode rod, which is responsible for killing bacteria and removing microorganisms from the water.

3. Rumbling and weird noises from your hot water system

A well-conditioned hot water system shouldn't make loud noises – whether it's cracking, popping, whining, banging, gurgling or bubbling.

These unusual noises may be generated by heated or burned sediment inside the tank. They can also be caused by a part of your hot water system that is becoming worn. Either way, sounds from your water tank is a potential indicator that it needs to be checked by an expert.

4. Leaking or puddles of water from your hot water system

Droplets or pooling water around your hot water tank means there's a problem. It's also a safety hazard too.

It's possible that an expansion of metal might have caused fractures in the tank. Issues with the hot water's system components such as those related to the tank's connections and pipe's pressure can also be plausible reasons. If this is happening, it's best to call a professional plumber.

5. Your hot water tank releases water at varying temperatures

It's all about finding that sweet spot between cold and hot water!

However, consistent fluctuations in the temperature of your water may indicate that your water heater may not be sufficient or that it's struggling to produce the water you require.

6. You're experiencing reduced water flow from your hot water system

Do you have an unusually low flow of hot water?

This can be traced to the build-up of sediment in your hot water system or plumbing problems within your home. Consulting a professional is helpful in understanding if a repair or replacement is necessary.

Are you experiencing any of these hot water system signs?

Inspecting your hot water system regularly is a good idea because let's be honest, no one wants a lack of hot water – especially during the colder months.

Keep in mind that prevention is always best. If you've already noticed any of these signs, reach out to your local plumbing professional to get a hot water system assessment, and assist with any potential repairs or replacement.

The experts from O'Brien Plumbing can address any of your concerns and answer all your questions about your home hot water system.

Let our expert plumbers help you today!

We understand how vital it is to have a hot water system that is fully functional.

To make sure your needs are met, we're committed to undertaking quality inspections, performing repairs and installing effective replacements for your home's hot water system.

Call us and we can start discussing your options.

***When you call [O'Brien Electrical and Plumbing](#)
you can be sure you've called the experts.***