How to Replace the Thermal Release Device (TRD)
Rheem Guardian System

How to Replace the Thermal Release Device (TRD)

**Tools Required:**
Torx 20 screwdriver

**Parts Required:** TRD Replacement Kit with TRD and inner door gaskets, spare screws and clips.

You can tell if the thermal release device has been activated. Normally, there is a small glass bulb in the assembly. If the assembly has been activated, then the bulb is missing. You will also see the shut off plate rod penetrating into the bracket assembly.
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1. Shut off gas supply to water heater. Turn gas valve to OFF. (Note your gas control may be different than shown here.)

2. Remove jacket door to combustion chamber.

3. Remove the four tamper resistant screws at the corners of the burner. You will need a #20 size TORX head tool. Disconnect main burner supply tube, pilot supply tube and piezo ignition wire.

4. Remove burner access door. Remove the old door gasket. Clean metal surfaces.

   (Gasket will be replaced during reinstallation of inner door. See gasket shipping package for more replacement instructions.)
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5. Locate and remove the thermal release device housing. It is in the middle of the combustion chamber toward the rear. Grab the housing, push down and rotate it counter clockwise 90 degrees. Lift, remove and discard.

6. Locate the spring clip. When the TRD failed, the glass bulb ruptured allowing the spring to release. The spring is located inside the combustion chamber. Look under the floor shield above if not in plain view. Discard used spring clip.

7. Place the TRD assembly over the damper rod. Line up the shut off plate rod with the hole in the bottom of the TRD assembly. Press down firmly until the rod seats. Rotate the TRD installation tool 90 degrees clockwise. Lock the TRD assembly into the flanges of the mounting bracket.

8. Check positioning of the TRD assembly. It should not move. Shut off plate rod should not be visible.

9. Replace the gasket and burner access door assembly.  
(Note door gasket color may vary.)
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<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Reconnect the pilot supply tube, thermocouple, and main gas supply tube. Reconnect the piezo ignitor striker wire.</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Turn on gas and gas valve. Relight the pilot per the lighting instructions. Turn temperature up high enough to light the main burner. Allow main burner to burn for 10 minutes to ensure air shut off plate is open.</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Reset thermostat to safe setting. Rheem recommends no hotter than 120 degrees.</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Replace jacket door to combustion chamber.</td>
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