How to Replace a Temperature and Pressure Relief Valve

CAUTION: Draining your water heater for this procedure may put you at risk of being scalded by hot water.
Please be careful when working on your water heater.

1. Turn the power OFF to the water heater at the circuit breaker (electric heater) or main gas line (gas heater).

2. Fasten a length of garden hose to the drain valve at the bottom of the heater. Put the other end of the garden hose in the nearest floor drain or snake it outside the home.

3. Close the shut off valve at the cold water inlet line.

4. Open the temperature and pressure relief valve at the top of the heater. Now open the drain valve and allow approximately one gallon of water to drain for a top mounted T&P valve; and 10 gallons for a side mounted T&P valve

CAUTION: THE WATER WILL BE HOT...........BE SURE NO ONE IS NEAR THE DRAIN HOSE OR THEY COULD BE SCALDED.

5. Detach the drain line connected to the T&P valve. Remove the old T&P valve with a wrench. You may get some additional water draining from the spud. Have some rags handy. Replace with a new T&P valve. It is a 3/4 inch National Pipe Thread (NPT) drain valve. You may find one at any plumbing house or home store. Use pipe sealer or Teflon tape to seal the threads. Make sure the new T&P valve is in the closed position.

6. Reconnect the drain line to the T&P valve.

7. Open a hot water faucet somewhere in the home. Open the shut off valve at the cold water inlet line. You will hear the heater start to fill. Also lift the lever on the T&P valve.

8. When you have a steady stream of water from the temperature and pressure valve tube, close the valve; when you have a steady stream of water from the hot water faucet, turn the faucet off.

9. Turn the power ON to the water heater at the circuit breaker (electric heater) or main gas line (gas heater; relight pilot if required). Allow the water heater to recover. Check the T&P valve one more time to make sure it is tight.

Use a new ¾ inch N.P.T drain valve

Seal threads with Teflon tape or pipe sealer

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