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WATER HEATER TEMPERATURE GUIDE

GAS SETTINGS

EPA RECOMMENDATIONS

- * **Low (Warm): 80-90°F**
- * **Hot: 120°F**
(Triangle Symbol) – **Most energy-efficient and scald-safe:** but won't sanitize or kill bacteria and allows bacterial growth.
- * **A: 130°F** – **Comfortable:** somewhat energy-efficient and scald-safe, kills bacteria in 6 - 8 hours and won't allow bacterial growth.
- * **B: 140°F** – **Very hot:** ideal to sanitize and kill bacteria, but has the potential to scald in less than 6 seconds.
- * **C: 150°F** – **Extremely hot:** ideal to sanitize and kill bacteria, but will scald in less than 2 seconds.
- * **Very Hot: 160°F** – **Hottest:** setting on most gas water heaters, ideal to sanitize and kill bacteria, but will scald on contact.

RECOMMENDED TEMPERATURE RANGE

- Set **120°F** - Young children and elderly will scald faster. To reduce energy costs. Legionella bacteria can exist but not multiply.
- Set **130°F** - Legionella won't grow.
- Set **140°F** - Anyone with compromised immune system. Households with more than 4 people. Dishwashers that don't preheat.

REMEMBER: When adjusting temperature setting for an electric water heater (for both thermostats), turn off power at circuit breaker.