

Sediment Buster®

Water Heater Flushing and Cleaning Instructions

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© These instructions are demonstrated **step by step in our instructional video** for visual reference.

4 STEP Set-up Process

1. Turn off electric or gas power to the water heater.
2. Turn on multiple hot water faucets to purge hot water and allow the tank to cool.

UNDERSTANDING WHY: Purging cools your water heater by letting cold water enter through the intake while hot water exits through open faucets. With the power off, this flow helps the tank cool down faster from the bottom up.

3. Attach the black male end of the Sediment Buster® to a full port hose that leads to a drain or outside.
4. Attach the yellow female swivel end of the Sediment Buster® to the water heater drain valve.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Verify the black rubber gasket is seated inside the yellow swivel, and thread it squarely without stripping the threads or overtightening.

Option 1: Flushing the Water Heater Tank

IMPORTANT REMINDERS ABOUT FLUSHING

- Flushing is the process of using the home's water pressure to push water (and sediment) out of the drain valve.
 - All faucets are turned **OFF** (closed).
 - Cold-water intake remains **ON** (open).
 - Tank is under full pressure.
1. With the Sediment Buster® valve turned **ON**, open the water heater drain valve.
 2. If water is not flowing or only trickling out, close the Sediment Buster® valve, attach your air pump, and inject a few short bursts of air to break up the clog.
 3. Open the Sediment Buster® valve and allow the tank to flush from the home's water pressure.
 4. If water is flowing, with the Sediment Buster® valve remaining open, periodically inject short bursts of air into the tank as it continues to flush to break loose sediment and stir the tank.

Important: If you believe the tank is not flushing out sediment or dirty water but should be, you may want to drain the tank empty and rinse and clean it.

Is FLUSHING a water heater enough?

Not always — we recommend draining and rinsing the tank for best results.

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Option 2: Drain (Empty), Rinse, and Clean Method

How to clean your tank more thoroughly, or just drain (empty) the tank.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS ABOUT FLUSHING

- All hot water faucets are turned **ON** (open) to create venting (tank depressurized)
 - The cold-water intake is turned **OFF** (closed).
1. With the Sediment Buster® valve turned **OFF**, open the water heater drain valve.
 2. Attach your air pump and inject a few bursts of air to break up clogs and stir the tank.
Open the Sediment Buster® valve and begin draining.
Continually inject bursts of air with the Sediment Buster® valve open to facilitate the draining process.
HELPFUL TIP: Use an air compressor.
 3. Once the tank is empty, replace the drain valve if needed (see Tips & Tricks), otherwise proceed to #4.
 4. Introduce water on and off from the cold-water intake to move sediment toward the drain valve. Simultaneously inject air to create two points of agitation and water/sediment movement. With short bursts, the Sediment Buster® will also push/suck sediment (see videos). Repeat this step multiple times.
 5. Once finished, close the drain valve, remove the Sediment Buster®, and fill the tank back up. Keep the hot water fixtures **ON** (open) until water returns in full to all your fixtures, then turn the power back on.

Tips & Tricks

Replace restrictive drain valves

Once the tank is empty, you may want to replace a restrictive drain valve with a full port drain valve before finishing the rinse and clean method. We recommend a straight valve with at least a 3/8-inch hole. Full 5/8-inch port is best. For more information on drain valves, visit our Q&A page.

Replace the anode rod and vent your water heater at the same time!

Turning on hot water faucets enables venting. If replacing the anode rod, remove it before draining and use the hole as an added vent (just replace it before filling the tank back up!).

Extension hose

If the drain valve is hard to access with the Sediment Buster®, try using a small extension hose between the yellow swivel and the water heater drain valve.

Email us at info@sedimentbuster.com if you have further questions!

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Warnings:

Turn off electric power or gas supply of water heater before use.

Water in the tank is HOT. Allow enough time for water to cool before draining, flushing, or engaging the water from the tank.

Do not exceed 80 PSI of pressure into the tank or the device.

Do not use the Sediment Buster® as an alternative to your drain valve.

Use air compressors or CO₂ compressors at your own risk.

For water heater tank drain valve use only. Do not use on tankless water heaters or on any other devices such as water spigots.

If discarding or recycling, do not burn.

Always wear protective safety eyewear and gear.

P65 Warning: Cancer and Reproductive Harm – www.P65Warnings.ca.gov

Disclaimers:

Sediment Buster® is committed to providing a high-quality product designed for its intended purpose. This product is intended for use as a sediment removal and cleaning tool for water heater tanks.

Sediment Buster® shall not be liable for any injuries, damages, or losses resulting from the improper or unauthorized use of this product. Misuse of the Sediment Buster® tool, including but not limited to using it with incompatible materials, exceeding recommended operating conditions, or using it for purposes other than sediment removal, may result in product failure, injury, or property damage.

Users are responsible for carefully reading and following the provided instructions, safety guidelines, and warnings, both enclosed and on the website www.sedimentbuster.com. Any deviation from the recommended usage may void any warranties or guarantees associated with this product or products it is used with.

Users are responsible to consult water heater manuals, or any other resources connected to the parts of the water heater or home. Sediment Buster® shall not be held responsible for any damage to the components of the water heater or tools used to clean the water heater, including but not limited to pressure relief valves and other valves, air pumps, pipes, dials, anode rods, and elements.

By using the Sediment Buster® tool, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agree to this disclaimer of liability for misuse, and you hold Sediment Buster® harmless from all injury or damage incurred.

If you have any questions or concerns about the appropriate use of this product, please contact our customer support for guidance on our website: www.sedimentbuster.com

Sediment Buster® is dedicated to your safety and satisfaction, and we encourage responsible and informed use of our product



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