

How to Determine Water Heater Age

Water Heaters:

SECOND LETTER – MONTH OF MANUFACTURE

A = January, **B** = February, **C** = March, **D** = April, **E** = May, **F** = June, **G** = July, **H** = August, **J** = September, **K** = October, **L** = November, **M** = December

(Most manufactures that use letters follow this letter to month pattern)

Ambassador – See State

American- 1st two digits equal the year, next two the week.

ACE – See American or State

AO Smith- Can be confusing; digits may be comprised of letters & numbers. May be one, two, or no letters.

If two letters first, next two numbers are year.

If one letter first, followed by two numbers and another letter, next two numbers are year.

If one letter first, next two numbers are year, providing no letter follows.

If two numbers first, this is year.

Typically the 2nd letter (sometimes first i.e. Kenmore and GSW) equals the month and the next two digits are the year.

Apollo – See AO Smith

AquaTemp – See American

AquaTherm- See American

Best –See American

Bosch - The first three digits of the serial number indicate the production date

Month \ Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	861	961	081	181	281	381	481	581	681	781	881	981
February	862	962	082	182	282	382	482	582	682	782	882	982
March	863	963	083	183	283	383	483	583	683	783	883	983
April	864	964	084	184	284	384	484	584	684	784	884	984
May	865	965	085	185	285	385	485	585	685	785	885	985
June	866	966	086	186	286	386	486	586	686	786	886	986
July	867	967	087	187	287	387	487	587	687	787	887	987
August	868	968	088	188	288	388	488	588	688	788	888	988
September	869	969	089	189	289	389	489	589	689	789	889	989
October	870	970	090	190	290	390	490	590	690	790	890	990
November	871	971	091	191	291	391	491	591	691	791	891	991
December	872	972	092	192	292	392	492	592	692	792	892	992

Bradford-White- 1st letter in the S/N is the year of manufacturer with A being 1964, 1984 or 2004 (They use a 20 year cycle) They skip the letters I, O, Q, R, U, V to make the full cycle. The second letter is the month A=January through M = December (I is left out)

FIRST LETTER – YEAR OF MANUFACTURE

A = 2004 F = 1989 L = 1994 T = 1999

B = 2005 G = 1990 M = 1995 W = 2000

C = 1986 H = 1991 N = 1996 X = 2001

D = 1987 J = 1992 P = 1997 Y = 2002

E = 1988 K = 1993 S = 1998 Z = 2003

C=2006 D=2007: E=2008 F = 2009

Cafos – Japanese brand of water heater

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Champion – See American
Craftmaster – See American
Crosley: (yes they are still making them) See Reliance or State
Energy saver – See Bradford White
Envirotemp – See American
GE-1st two digits equal the month, next to the year. (mfg by Rheem)
Glascote –See AO Smith
Golden Knight – See Bradford White
GSW – See AO Smith
Hotpoint – see GE?
JC Penney – See State
Jetglas – See Bradford White
JW or John Wood – See AO Smith
Kenmore: See State, was AO Smith at one time
Lochinvar – See Bradford White
Lowes – See Rheem
Mainstream – unknown at this time
Maytag – See AO Smith
Montgomery Ward – See Rheem
Mor-Flo - American
Knight – See Lochnivar
PermaGlas – See AO Smith
Reliance – See State
Revere – See American
Rheem/Rudd/Richmond- 1st two digits equal the month, next to the year. Rheem Manufacturing is owned by Japanese water heater manufacturer Paloma
Rinnai - Rinnai America Corp <http://www.foreverhotwater.com/index.php>. The manufacturing date code is the first four digits of the serial number, written as YYMM,
Security – See US Water Heater
Shamrock – See American
Standard – See American
State/Reliance/Sears- Letter that equals the month followed by the year. (made by AO Smith)
Takagi - ?
Thermo-King – See State Industries
Vanguard – See Rheem
US Craftmaster – See American
US Water Heater - ????
Whirlpool - See American

The only real manufactures of water heaters anymore are American, AO Smith, Bradford White, and Rheem. It is rumored that we are now getting Japanese and Chinese water heaters in the market (3/08)

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Water Heater Brand Manufactures

Brand Name --- Manufacturer

A.O. Smith --- A.O.Smith
ABS --- Rheem
Ace --- State
Ace --- American
Ambassador --- State
American --- American
American Hardware --- American
Apex -- American
Aqua Temp --- American
Aqua Therm -- Rheem
Aqua Therm --- American
Aquamatic --- American
Barnett --- State
Best --- American
Best Deluxe --- American
Bradford White --- Bradford-White
Century --- State
Champion --- American
Cimarrom --- Rheem
Citation --- Rheem
Coast to coast --- Rheem
Craftmaster --- American
Crosley --- State
De-Limier --- American
Deluxe --- American
Eagle --- American
Earl's Energy Saver --- American
Energy Master --- Rheem
Energy Saver --- Lochinvar
Energy Stretcher --- State
Environtemp --- American
Four Most --- American
Freedom --- State
Freedome/Nipsco --- State
General Electric --- Rheem
Glascote --- A.O.Smith
Golden Knight --- Lochinvar
Hardware House --- State
Hotmaster --- American
Hotstream --- American
Intertherm & miller --- Rheem
Jetglas --- Bradford-White
King-Cleen --- American
King-Line --- American
Knight --- Lochinvar
Lochinvar --- Lochinvar
Lowe's --- Rheem
Mainstream --- Rheem
Master Plumber --- American
Master plumber/True5 --- State
Mission --- State
Montgomery Ward --- Rheem
Mor-Flo/American --- American
Nationaline ? --- American or State
Neptune --- American
Patriot --- State
Penfield --- State
Penguin --- American
PermaGlas --- A.O.Smith

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Praline --- American
Praline-Plus --- American
President --- State
Prestige --- American
Professional --- Rheem
Pro Line --- American
Quaker --- American
Quick-Flo -- American
Raywall --- American
Regency--- State
Reliance --- State
Revere --- American
Rheem --- Rheem
Rheem/Ruud --- Rheem
Richmond --- Rheem
Riviera --- American
Ruud --- Rheem
U.S. Craftmaster --- American
SABH (US) --- American
Sands --- American
Sentinel --- American
Service-Star --- American
Servi-Star --- Rheem
Shamrock --- American
Special Deluxe --- American
Standard --- American
State/Kenmore --- State
Super Eagle --- American
Sure-Fire --- American
The Plumbery --- State
Thermo-King --- State
Thoro-clean --- American
TopLine --- State
Tru Value --- American
True Value --- Rheem
Tru-Test --- American
U.S. Supply --- American
Vanguard --- Rheem
Vista Therm --- Rheem
Whirlpool --- American
XCL-Energy Saver --- America

Updated 4/19/2007

Updated 6/18/2007
Updated 07/20/2007
Updated 7/31/2007
Updated 8/1/2007
Updated 8/9/2007
Updated 9/20/2007
Updated 9/25/2007
Updated 10/15/2007
Updated 11/27/2007
Updated 11/29/2007
Updated 12/6/2007
Updated 3/14/2008
Updated 4/22/2008
Updated 5/27/2008
Updated 9/14/2008

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Updated 10/17/2008

Updated 1/6/2009

Updated 1/23/2009

Updated 2/12/2009

Updated 5/5/2010