

Tips for Installation of Electric Water Heater

Installation of Electric Water Heater

Before installing electric water heaters, consumers should apply to the Water Authority for permission. The application should include plumbing arrangement of the installation together with the details of the electric water heaters. The installation of electric water heaters shall be carried out by a designated person under section 15 of Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102) for specified plumbing works.

Designated person means

- (a) a licensed plumber;
- (b) a registered plumbing worker;
- (c) a registered plumbing worker (provisional);
- (d) a person who carries out specified plumbing works under the instruction and supervision of a licensed plumber or registered plumbing worker; or
- (e) a public officer authorized by the Water Authority.

Registered plumbing workers are those registered under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 583) in relevant trade divisions.

A directory of licensed plumbers is available at “Plumbing and Engineering” tab in our website <https://www.wsd.gov.hk/en/plumbing-engineering/licensed-plumbers/index.html>.

Waiving of Permission for Replacement of Electric Water Heater

The Water Authority may waive the requirement of permission under Section 14 of the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102) if the works are alterations or repairs to a fire service or inside service that are, in the opinion of the Water Authority, of a minor nature. If the consumers replace a water heater of the same type at the inside service solely serving an individual flat/unit within a building, the plumbing works may be considered as works of a minor nature. Moreover, under Section 15 of the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102), a person who is not a designated person may carry out alterations or repairs to inside service that are, in the opinion of the Water Authority, of a minor nature. For the details of works of a minor nature, please visit our website <https://www.wsd.gov.hk/en/plumbing-engineering/licensed-plumbers/works-of-a-minor-nature/index.html>.

In addition, the owners of the electric water heater should engage a registered electrical contractor to carry out a feasibility study on the electrical installation. The electrical installation must be inspected and tested by a registered electrical worker before the installation is energized. After inspection and testing, the registered electrical contractor and worker shall issue a Work Completion Certificate to confirm that the electrical installation complies with the statutory safety requirements. Both the registered electrical contractors and registered electrical workers are registered with the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) under the Electricity Ordinance (CAP. 406) .

As for the list of registered electrical contractor, please refer to the EMSD website

https://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/electricity_safety/registers/registered_electrical_contractors/index.html

For the safety tips for using electric water heaters, please refer to the EMSD website

https://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/electricity_safety/electricity_information/electrical_products_safety_corner/index.html

The safe functioning of an electric water heater relies much on the correct installation and proper maintenance. Do not attempt to modify or temper with the safety devices of the electric water heater.

Water Supplies Department

Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Customer Telephone Enquiry Hotline: 2824 5000

Email: wsdinfo@wsd.gov.hk

Website: www.wsd.gov.hk