

STATUS: Items obtained

## Replace the water heater anode rod

*Replace the anode rod of the water heater to fix the swampy smell and black water.*

### Items Needed

- 3/4" plug
- Flexible aluminum anode rod
- 1 1/16 inch deep socket

### Instructions

- Remove the old anode rod by closing the water supply, draining off several gallons, then unscrew the old rod with the socket, ratchet, and a breaker bar. You might have to have another person bear hug the water heater.
- Attach plumbers tape to the new rod and insert it into the hole. Be careful not to cross-thread. Hand tighten only.

### More Information

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/how-to/how-to-change-water-heater-anode-rod>

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