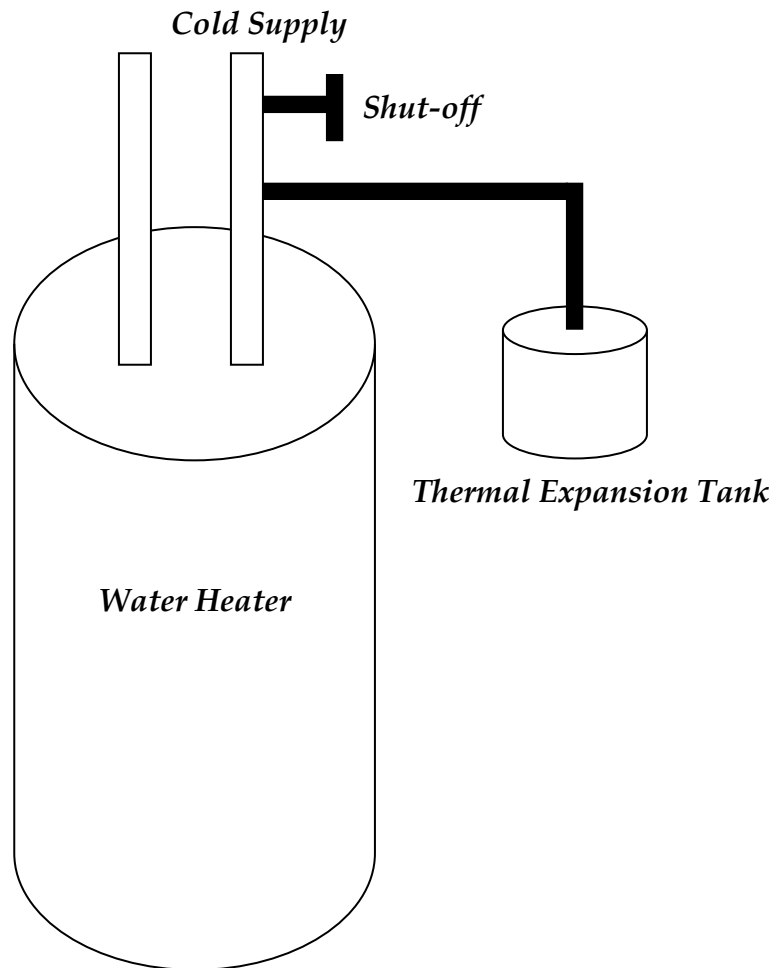


## Water Heater Installation

An important consideration when a water heater is installed, whether new or replacement, is the need for an expansion tank. Under normal circumstances, when the water in a water heater expands the volume can be absorbed by some of the water in the cold water piping and backflowing into the municipal water system. In the case where a backflow preventer (check valve) has been installed, the house water system cannot release the excess volume by backflowing to the municipal water system. This situation could result in damage to the house water system. All new and recently replaced water meters have a check valve installed. Illinois State Plumbing Code requires the installation of an “expansion tank” on the cold water side of the water heater in this situation. A two and one-half (2 ½) gallon tank is adequate for water heaters up to sixty-five (65) gallons. See the illustration below.

### Thermal Expansion Tank



*Provide 2.5 gallon expansion tank for water heaters up to 65 gallons.*