

Electric Water Heater Electric Elements Energized Simultaneously

When replacing a thermostat on an electric water heater, you must ensure that you replace the wires properly on the thermostat. The only way to insert the wires on the thermostat is from the side (see **Figure 1**). Engaging the wires from the top or bottom could cause internal damage to the thermostat. One scenario is illustrated below (see **Figure 2**) where the yellow wire is engaged from the bottom on the thermostat's electrical contact. In this particular situation, this will generally cause a malfunction of the thermostat which would lead to a situation where both elements will be energized at the same time and will trip the breaker or blow the fuse in the electrical panel.

Figure 1

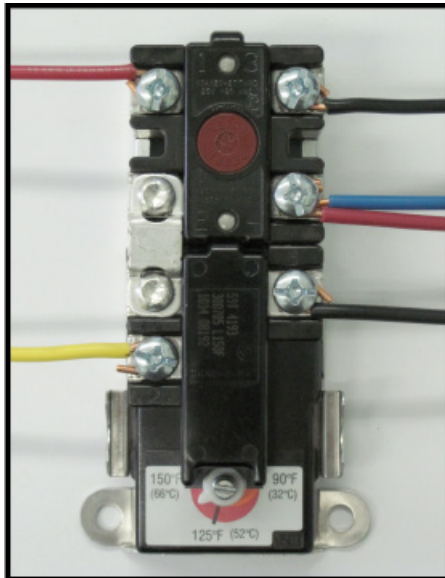


Figure 2

