



WATER HEATER PERFORMANCE

REPORT

Anode Rods and Tank Life

All steel glass lined residential water heaters use an anode rod as a means to prolong tank life. The anode rod protects the tank from corrosion through a process called cathodic protection. Cathodic protection is an electrochemical process wherein an "active" material is connected to a "less active material" in the presence of an electrolyte (water). In a water heater the active material is the anode rod, which gives up ions to the cathode, which is any exposed surface of the tank. The anode is "sacrificed" or consumed over time while preventing corrosion of the tank.

It's easy to understand, then, that the more anode material in a water heater tank, the longer it will take to be consumed, and the longer the tank will last. In fact, providing larger anode rods is one of the primary ways a manufacturer uses to offer longer warranted tanks. However, what is important to remember is that **not all anode rods are the same.**

Rick Miller

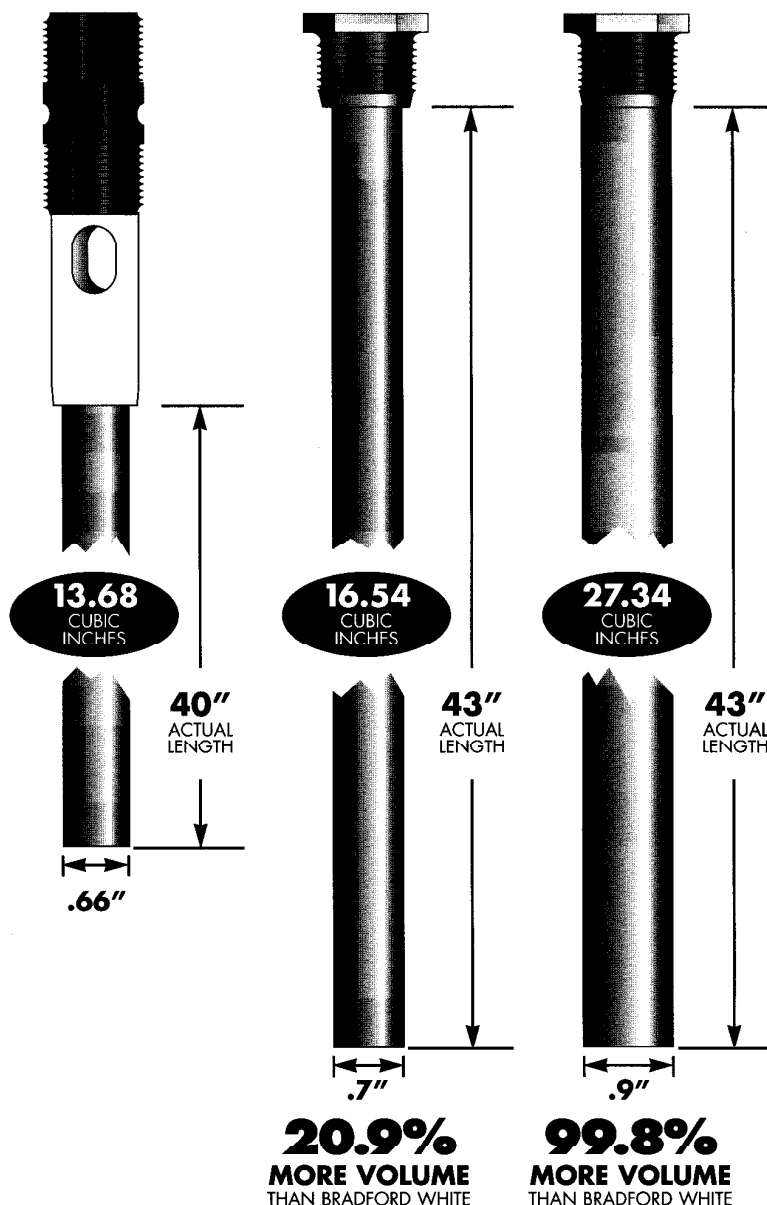
Rick Miller
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Compare Rheem and Ruud Anode Tank Protection with Bradford White

BRADFORD WHITE
MODEL MI-403-T6LN
6 YEAR TANK WARRANTY

RHEEM 21V40-7 (FURY)
RUUD P40-7 (PACEMAKER)
6 YEAR TANK WARRANTY

RHEEM RHG PRO40-40
RUUD RUG PRO40-40
8 YEAR TANK WARRANTY
(PROFESSIONAL™)



When you buy a water heater with a six year tank warranty, don't you want a water heater that's truly designed to last longer?