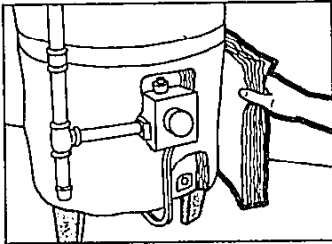


to save energy

Continued from Page 4

that is used in appliances like dishwashers. And it keeps some of the heat from escaping through the walls of the water heater tank by reducing the difference between the temperature of the water in the tank and the surrounding air.

These heat losses can be expensive. (See action 3).



3. Cutting the losses off at the tank.

Another way to save money is to add an extra layer of insulation around the outside of the water tank to cut heat loss. This effort is estimated to save \$20 per year for electric water heaters and \$10 a year for gas.

You can buy enough foil-backed insulation and tape to do this job for less than \$5. If you buy a roll of insulation, you can use the rest of it to finish the other low-cost measures described in this brochure.

For this project, you need enough insulation to completely encircle the tank and also to cover the top. The standard 3/4-inch

insulation is adequate for the job, though you may have to squeeze it a little to fit between the tank and any adjacent wall.

The insulation goes around the tank like gift-wrapping on a package — the shiny foil on the outside.

If it takes two widths of insulation to cover the tank, seal the horizontal seam with duct tape. Also seal the vertical seams where one end of the piece of insulation joins the other.

A circle can be cut for the top and attached to the insulation on the sides of the tank with tape.

The main point is to cover all exposed surfaces of the tank, except for certain critical areas that must be left free to "breathe."

On electric water heaters, it is best not to cover the drain faucet, the thermostat access panel or the relief valve that comes out of the top of the tanks.

On gas water heaters, a crucial warning must be heeded: Do not cover air inlets, pipes, controls, relief valves or the flue at the top of the heater.

If you are unsure about the crucial openings on gas and oil water heaters, you can buy a manufactured insulation jacket kit with holes pre-cut for the critical areas. It is also important that the insulation be fixed to the tank so that it can't slip down and cover the openings later.

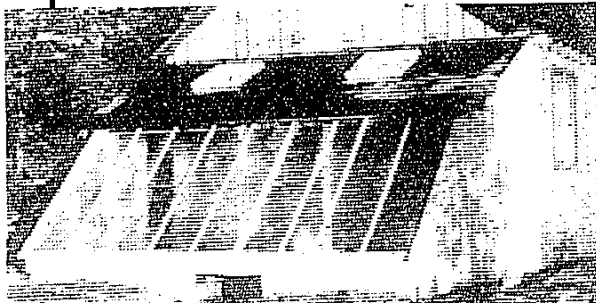
A mistake here could cause a fire or even an explosion.

4. Cooling the wash.

A switch to a lower temperature on the

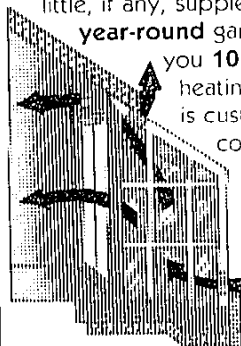
Continued on Page 6

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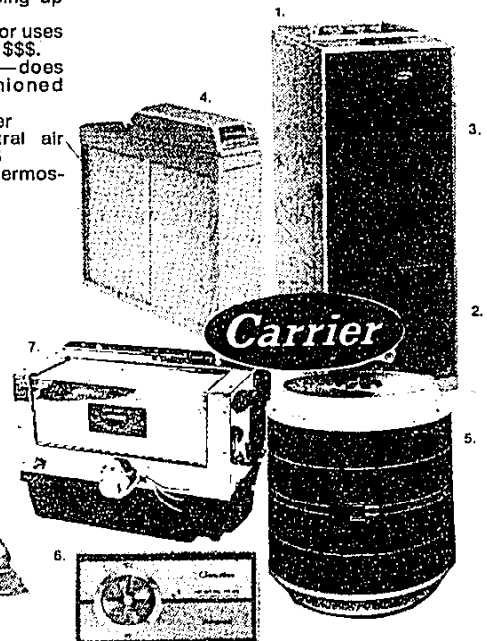


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