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Frigidaire 131553900

Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly User Manual

Model: 131553900
Brand: Frigidaire

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective use of the Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly. This genuine replacement part is designed to restore the heating function of your dryer. Proper installation and maintenance are crucial for the longevity and performance of this component and your appliance. Please read all instructions carefully before proceeding with installation or maintenance.

2. Safety Information

- **Disconnect Power:** Always disconnect the dryer from its power source (unplug or turn off circuit breaker) before attempting any installation, maintenance, or repair. Failure to do so can result in electric shock or serious injury.
- **Professional Installation Recommended:** If you are not comfortable with appliance repair, it is recommended to seek assistance from a qualified technician.
- **Wear Protective Gear:** Wear gloves and eye protection to prevent injury from sharp edges or debris.
- **Handle with Care:** The heating element coils can be delicate. Handle the assembly carefully to avoid damage.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the work area is well-ventilated.
- **Lint Removal:** This is an opportune time to thoroughly clean lint from all accessible areas of the dryer. Excessive lint buildup is a fire hazard.

3. Product Overview

The Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly is a complete unit designed to replace a faulty heating element in compatible Frigidaire and other brand dryers. It includes the heating coil, housing, and often integrated thermal fuses or thermostats for safety.



Figure 3.1: The Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly, showing the heating coils within its metal housing.



Figure 3.2: Packaging indicating the Frigidaire brand and part number 131553900 for heater assembly, confirming it is a genuine OEM replacement part.

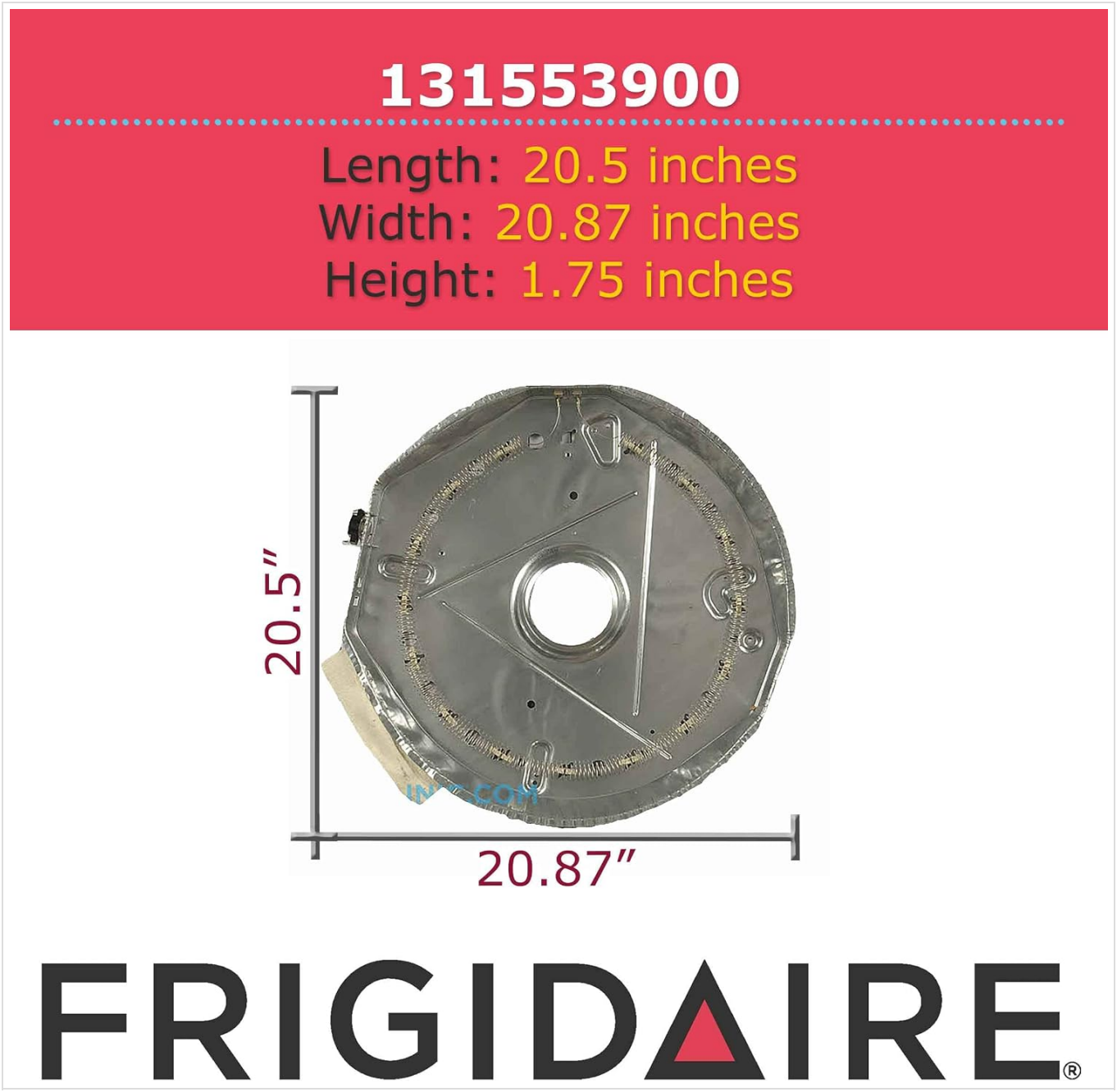

Figure 3.3: Diagram showing the approximate dimensions of the Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly: Length 20.5 inches, Width 20.87 inches, Height 1.75 inches.

4. Setup and Installation

Replacing a dryer heating element typically requires significant disassembly of the appliance. The following steps are a general guide. Specific dryer models may vary. Refer to your dryer's service manual for detailed instructions if available.

Required Tools:

- Screwdrivers (Phillips and Flathead)
- Nut drivers or socket set
- Pliers
- Work gloves
- Safety glasses
- Shop vacuum or brush for lint cleaning

Installation Steps:

1. **Disconnect Power:** Unplug the dryer from the wall outlet or turn off the circuit breaker supplying power to the dryer.
2. **Access Rear Panel:** Move the dryer away from the wall. Remove the screws securing the rear access panel and carefully remove the panel.
3. **Locate and Disconnect Belt:** Inside the dryer, locate the drive belt connected to the motor assembly. Carefully remove the belt from the motor pulley to allow drum removal.
4. **Remove Top Cover:** Remove any screws holding the top cover of the dryer in place, then lift and remove the top cover.
5. **Access Control Panel (if necessary):** For some models, you may need to remove bolts from the top and disconnect wires to remove the electronic board assembly or control panel to gain access.
6. **Remove Front Panel:** Remove all bolts securing the front panel, including those on the top, bottom (you may need to lift the dryer to see these), and inside the drum opening. Carefully pull the front panel away.
7. **Remove Plastic Drum Guide:** On the front, near the top, remove the plastic drum guide.
8. **Remove Drum:** Locate the bolts holding the drum to the rear bearing assembly (often three center bolts). These can be very tight. Remove them. Carefully lift the drum and guide it out through the front of the dryer.
9. **Clean Lint:** With the dryer disassembled, thoroughly clean all accumulated lint from inside the dryer cabinet, ducts, and around components.
10. **Disconnect Old Heating Element:** Locate the old heating element assembly. Disconnect all electrical wires connected to it.
11. **Remove Old Heating Element:** Remove the bolts or clips holding the old heating element assembly in place. Carefully remove the old assembly.
12. **Install New Heating Element:** Position the new Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly in its place. Secure it with the removed bolts or clips. Connect all electrical wires to the new assembly, ensuring connections are secure and correct.
13. **Reassemble Dryer:** Reverse the disassembly steps to reassemble the dryer. Ensure the drum is properly seated on the rear bearing and the belt is correctly routed around the motor and idler pulley. It is often helpful to have a second person assist with re-installing the drum.
14. **Test:** Once fully reassembled, plug the dryer back into the power source and test its operation.

Recommendation: While the dryer is disassembled, consider inspecting and potentially replacing other wear items such as the dryer belt, idler pulley, and rear drum rollers or bearing assembly. Also, clean and re-lubricate the drum ball joint with high-temperature lithium grease if applicable to your model.

5. Operating the Dryer (After Installation)

The Frigidaire 131553900 Heater Assembly is a component part of your dryer. Once correctly installed, the dryer should resume its normal heating function. Operate your dryer according to its original manufacturer's instructions. If the dryer does not heat or exhibits unusual behavior after installation, refer to the troubleshooting section.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance of your dryer, particularly lint removal, is crucial for its efficiency and safety. While the heating element itself requires little maintenance, ensuring the surrounding environment is clean will prolong its life.

- **Clean Lint Filter:** Clean the lint filter before or after every load.
- **Inspect Venting:** Periodically inspect and clean the dryer's exhaust vent system (from the dryer to the outside) to prevent lint buildup, which can restrict airflow and cause overheating.
- **Internal Cleaning:** As demonstrated during installation, internal lint buildup can be significant. Consider a professional cleaning or a thorough DIY cleaning every few years, especially if drying times increase.

7. Troubleshooting

If your dryer is not heating or experiencing issues after installing the new heating element, consider the following:

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
Dryer runs but no heat	Blown thermal fuse or thermostat (often integrated with element), faulty high-limit switch, wiring issue, circuit breaker tripped.	Check thermal fuse/thermostat continuity. Ensure all wiring connections are secure. Check dryer's circuit breaker.
Drying takes too long	Restricted airflow due to clogged lint filter or vent, partial heating element failure, faulty moisture sensor.	Clean lint filter and dryer vent thoroughly. Inspect heating element for any visible damage to coils.
Burning smell	Lint buildup, foreign object in dryer, new element burning off manufacturing residue (temporary).	Immediately stop dryer. Disconnect power. Inspect for lint or foreign objects. If new, run empty for a short period in a well-ventilated area.

If troubleshooting steps do not resolve the issue, it is recommended to contact a qualified appliance repair technician.

8. Specifications

Attribute	Detail
Model Number	131553900
Brand	Frigidaire
Part Type	Heater Assembly for Dryer
Voltage	120 Volts
Wattage	2000 watts
Item Weight	3 Pounds
Product Dimensions	20.5 x 20.5 x 1.75 inches
Compatible Devices	FRIGIDAIRE, KENMORE, GIBSON (and others requiring part 131553900)
Color	Silver

9. Warranty and Support

As a genuine Frigidaire replacement part, this heater assembly is manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty information regarding this part, please refer to the original purchase documentation or contact Frigidaire customer support directly. Support for installation and troubleshooting can often be found through online resources, appliance repair forums, or by consulting a certified technician.

For official Frigidaire support, please visit the Frigidaire Store on Amazon or their official website.

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