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> Rheem AP16351A-2 Water Heater Natural Gas Valve Instruction Manual

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Model: AP16351A-2

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Rheem AP16351A-2 OEM Upgraded Replacement Water Heater Natural Gas Valve. Please read this manual thoroughly before attempting any installation or operation. Retain this manual for future reference.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: Improper installation, adjustment, alteration, service, or maintenance can cause property damage, injury, or death. Read the installation, operating, and maintenance instructions thoroughly before installing or servicing this equipment.

- Installation and service must be performed by a qualified installer, service agency, or gas supplier.
- Always turn off the gas supply to the water heater before servicing.
- Check for gas leaks after installation or service using a soap solution. Never use an open flame.
- Ensure proper ventilation in the area where the water heater is installed.
- Do not store flammable materials near the water heater.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present before beginning installation:

- 1 x Rheem AP16351A-2 Natural Gas Valve
- (Additional components, if any, would be listed here by manufacturer)

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

This section outlines the general steps for replacing a natural gas valve on a water heater. Consult your water heater's specific manual for detailed instructions and diagrams.

1. Preparation:

- Turn off the gas supply to the water heater at the main shut-off valve.
- Turn off the water supply to the water heater.
- Drain the water heater completely.
- Disconnect the gas line from the existing gas valve.
- Disconnect any electrical connections (if applicable) and the thermocouple/thermopile.

2. Removal of Old Valve:

- Carefully unthread and remove the old gas valve from the water heater.
- Clean any debris or old sealant from the water heater's gas inlet threads.

3. Installation of New Valve:

- Apply appropriate pipe thread sealant (suitable for natural gas) to the threads of the new AP16351A-2 gas valve.
- Thread the new gas valve into the water heater's gas inlet, ensuring it is securely tightened but not overtightened.
- Reconnect the gas line to the new valve.
- Reconnect the thermocouple/thermopile and any electrical connections.

4. Leak Test:

- Slowly turn on the main gas supply.
- Apply a soap and water solution to all gas connections. Bubbles indicate a leak. If leaks are detected, turn off the gas, tighten connections, and retest.

5. Refill Water Heater:

- Open the hot water faucet in your home to allow air to escape.
- Slowly open the cold water supply valve to the water heater.
- Once water flows steadily from the hot water faucet, close the faucet.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

After successful installation and leak testing, follow these steps to operate your water heater with the new gas valve:

1. Pilot Light Ignition:

- Locate the gas control knob on the AP16351A-2 valve.
- Turn the knob to the "PILOT" position.
- Press and hold the pilot button while simultaneously igniting the pilot light (usually via a piezo igniter button or a long lighter).
- Continue to hold the pilot button for approximately 30-60 seconds after the pilot flame is established to allow the thermocouple to heat up.
- Release the pilot button. If the pilot light extinguishes, repeat the process.

2. Main Burner Operation:

- Once the pilot light is stable, turn the gas control knob from "PILOT" to the desired temperature setting (e.g., "WARM" or a specific temperature).

- The main burner should ignite. Observe the flame for proper operation.

3. Shutting Down:

- To turn off the main burner, turn the gas control knob to the "PILOT" position.
- To completely shut off the gas supply to the water heater, turn the gas control knob to the "OFF" position.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your water heater and gas valve.

- **Annual Inspection:** Have a qualified technician inspect the gas valve and water heater annually for proper operation, leaks, and wear.
- **Pilot Light:** Ensure the pilot flame is strong and blue. A weak or yellow flame may indicate a problem requiring professional service.
- **Ventilation:** Keep the area around the water heater clear of obstructions to ensure adequate airflow for combustion.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Pilot light won't stay lit.	Faulty thermocouple/thermopile, gas supply issue, dirty pilot orifice.	Ensure pilot button is held long enough. Check gas supply. Clean or replace thermocouple/thermopile. Consult a professional.
Main burner won't ignite.	Pilot light out, gas control knob not set correctly, gas supply off.	Relight pilot. Turn gas control knob to desired temperature. Check main gas supply.
No hot water.	Pilot light out, thermostat setting too low, gas supply off.	Check pilot light. Adjust thermostat. Verify gas supply.
Smell of gas.	Gas leak.	Immediately turn off gas supply, ventilate area, and contact a qualified professional or gas company. Do not operate any electrical switches.

For issues not listed or if troubleshooting steps do not resolve the problem, contact a qualified service technician.

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Brand:** Rheem
- **Model Number:** AP16351A-2
- **Item Weight:** 64 Ounces
- **Operating Temperature:** 120 Degrees Fahrenheit
- **Manufacturer:** White Rodgers (OEM for this part)

- **Part Type:** OEM Upgraded Replacement Natural Gas Valve

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information regarding your Rheem AP16351A-2 gas valve, please refer to the documentation provided by the original seller or contact Rheem customer support directly. Support contact details are typically available on the manufacturer's official website.

For technical assistance or professional service, it is recommended to contact a certified HVAC technician or a qualified gas appliance service provider.