

Traditional Circulating System with a Chilipepper

When using the Chilipepper pump on a traditional circulating system there are a few things that need to be done to get the best performance.

#1

Remove the spring check valve from the Chilipepper which is located inside the tallest fitting on the pump head. Removing the spring check valve will improve the efficiency of the pump and allow it to pump more water.

#2

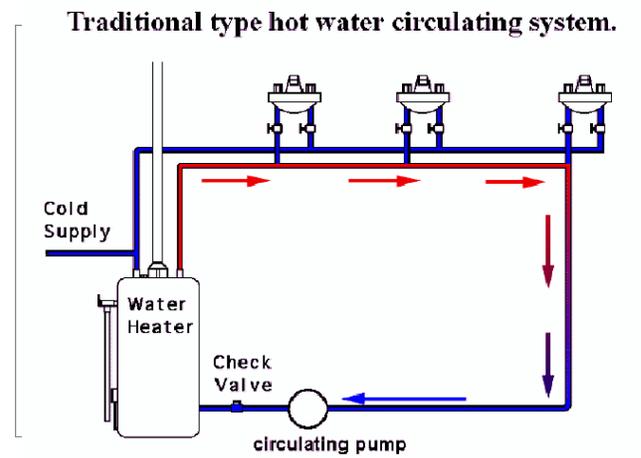
A brass swing check will be needed in the return line. If your loop does not have a check valve and you turn on the hot water at a fixture, you will be drawing water from the top of the water heater and the bottom of the water heater at the same time and you will never get really hot water.



#3

When connecting the Chilipepper always use flex hoses when connecting to the return line. If connected directly to the return line the pump head will break over time due to expansion and contraction of the water lines.

This is a simple diagram showing one way to plumb a traditional return line circulating system with a pump and check valve at the water heater. Some plumbers will connect the return line to the water heater differently but it is still the same principal.



#4

If the water lines are accessible, the temperature sensor can be installed and located at the last fixture which would save more energy. That would require a 3 wire cable running from the Chilipepper pump to the last fixture in the loop. If that's not possible the sensor can stay on the pump.

#5

To activate the pump you can either use the remote with the Chilipepper or run 2 wire cables to each fixture in the house.

#6

Priming and making sure the Chilipepper is installed in a position that stays primed with water is very important. Running the pump without water will damage the pump and cause it to leak.