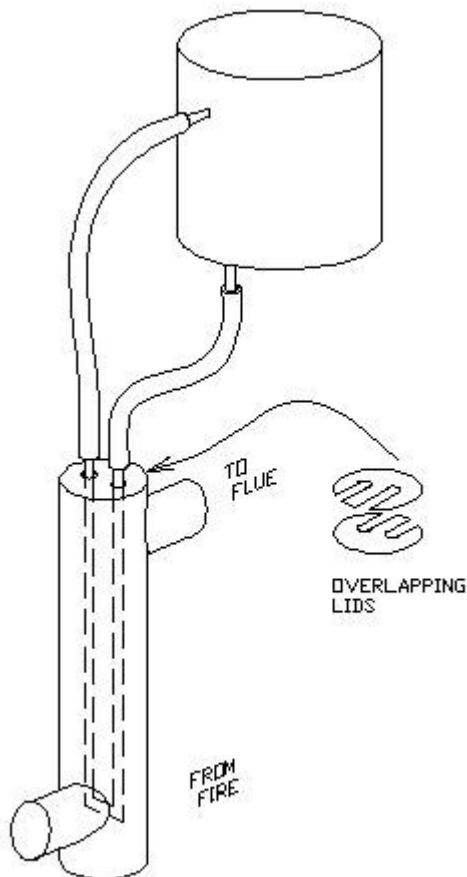


Water Heaters for Woodstove

A simple water heater can be made for this woodstove by having the flue gasses pass through a two-foot section of 4" diameter pipe.

A U-shaped piece of 1/2" copper pipe is suspended in this section. Even though this pipe is exposed to orange-hot flue gasses, any solder joints will not melt, because it will be filled with water.

I connected the ends to a five-gallon can suspended from the rafters in my shop, with 5/8" automotive heater hose. The connections to the can were made to pieces of 1/2" copper pipe – one soldered into the bottom, and the other soldered about half-way up the side.



For a more practical scale, I would recommend elevating a 20 gallon galvanized trash can high enough to gravity feed a shower – or anything else that needed hot running water. Be careful though, 20 gallons of water is going to weigh over 160 lbs.

Another method would be to use the “Small Boiler” in the “Manipulating Energy” section. This would be a cleaner and more compact solution that should also be more durable.

I messed around with a version of this that was connected to more fire and a 55-gallon drum, but never got around to completing the project; I did get far enough however, to say with certainty that it can be done.

To really be practical of course, any such container would have to be insulated, and have a spigot for removing hot water.