Standard Electric - Not Enough Hot Water

Not Enough Hot Water
Make sure water heater is not undersized. Seasonal variations in cold water temperatures and hot water usage can generate “not enough hot water” complaints. Faulty shower controls or defective thermostatic mixing valves can also cause this symptom.

Set both thermostats to 120°F.

Thermostatic Mixing Valve
Higher tank temperatures will increase hot water delivery but also increase the risk of scalding. If temperature is set above 120°F, install a thermostatic mixing valve.

Check Lower Heating Element
Turn power off. Disconnect power wires from lower element. Set meter to lowest resistance setting. Check resistance between the two screw terminals on upper element.

Resistance will be between 5 and 25 Ohms if element is good (12.5 Ohms typical). If resistance is outside this range, replace element. If lower element is good, replace lower thermostat.