**Understanding How a Water Well Pressure Tank Works**

A well water pressure tank plays a vital role in your home’s water system. Its main job is to store water under pressure so you get a steady, reliable flow at your faucets while also protecting your well pump from overwork. Without it, your pump would have to switch on every time you used water — even for something as small as rinsing your hands.

**By storing a supply of pressurized water, the tank:**

* Ensures smooth, consistent water pressure.
* Reduces how often the pump needs to start and stop.
* Extends the pump’s lifespan.
* Saves energy and operating costs.

**How It Works**

1. **Water Storage**: Well pump pushes water into the pressure tank.
2. **Air Compression:** Inside the tank, water is stored against a cushion of compressed air. As the tank fills, the air is squeezed, creating pressure.
3. **Water Distribution**: When you open a faucet, the compressed air pushes the stored water out of the tank and into your plumbing, delivering immediate pressure.
4. **Pump Activation**: As you use water, the pressure inside the tank gradually drops. When it reaches the “cut-in” setting of the pressure switch, the pump turns on, refills the tank, and restores system pressure.

**Key Benefits**

* **Consistent Pressure** – Keeps water pressure steady for showers, laundry, cooking, and other daily needs.
* **Extended Pump Life** – Reduces “short cycling,” which wears out pump motors prematurely.
* **Energy Efficiency** – Fewer pump cycles mean less electricity used.
* **Built-In Reserve** – Provides a buffer of pressurized water, so you can draw from the tank even when the pump is off.

In short, the pressure tank acts like a middleman between your pump and your plumbing. It delivers steady pressure for your household while giving the pump a much-needed break, ensuring your entire water system runs more efficiently and lasts longer.

