

Taking control of your heating bills

A gas boiler is by far the biggest energy using appliance in your home – responsible for around 80% of total energy used. Understanding how to use the controls on your heating system, or replacing outdated controls, will make sure your boiler works efficiently.

Using your current heating controls

Use the **programmer** to only bring the boiler on when you need it.

Learning its functions will help you change settings to match your lifestyle.

Heating the house when nobody is at home is wasting heat.



Radiator controls (TRVs) prevent individual rooms from overheating and prevent the boiler from heating a room that is already warm.

For rooms that are not used very often you can save money by keeping the TRV at a low setting.

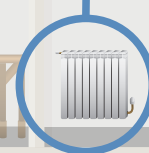
As TRVs work by sensing temperature it is important to keep them free of obstructions such as furniture or curtains.



Use the **room thermostat** to set how warm you want your home to be. It will control the boiler to maintain the chosen temperature.

Find a comfortable temperature and leave it at that setting. The thermostat will automatically adjust for colder weather.

Trying to warm the house more quickly by turning up the thermostat will not work and will end up wasting heat.



Low Temperature Emitters and TRVs



Upgrading your heating system

**10%
ENERGY
SAVINGS**



Replacing a standard room thermostat with one that controls the boiler using **load or weather compensation** will deliver savings whenever the heating is on.

Research shows such control reduces gas usage by 10-12% depending on the type of control your existing boiler is compatible with.¹

Smart controls allow you to adjust time and temperature settings using your mobile phone. They may also sense whether you are in or out and adjust the heating settings automatically.

Field trials show 6% less gas used in homes with a smart thermostat.²

**6%
ENERGY
SAVINGS**



**18%
ENERGY
SAVINGS**



If you don't have **TRVs** on your radiators, getting these added can significantly reduce wasted heat.

Research shows a boiler can use 18% less gas when TRVs are used to avoid barely noticeable levels of overheating in rooms not controlled by the central room thermostat.³

References:

¹ Tests by Salford University, on behalf of BEAMA and OpenTherm (2020). <https://www.beama.org.uk/resourceLibrary/salford-tests-on-load-and-weather-compensation.html>

² Study by the Behavioural Insights Team on the savings from smart thermostats, 2017: <https://www.bi.team/publications/evaluating-the-nest-learning-thermostat/2>

³ Tests by Salford University, on behalf of BEAMA and BRE (2018). <https://www.beama.org.uk/resourceLibrary/salford-university-tests-to-establish-the-energy-savings-from-trvs---2018-pdf.html>