Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

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Heating

Modern Storage Heating

Modern storage heaters are much more efficient and have much better insulation so more of the heat that is stored at night is available for you to use during the day.

How do they work?

Storage heaters work by using electricity at night, when it is cheap, to heat up the inside of the heater. You can then release the heat the next day and into the evening, so you get heating when you want it instead of just when electricity is cheaper.

High heat retention storage heaters

The most efficient modern storage heaters are called 'high heat retention storage heaters'. In addition to the features of other modern storage heaters, these models achieve even better heat retention and can estimate the next day's heating demand based on user heating habits and climatic conditions (meaning you do not need to worry about adjusting your input settings as you may have done in the past).

Better efficiency and more control

The latest storage heater models have been improved in terms of efficiency, responsiveness, and controllability. New models can hold more heat for longer periods, with better insulation to ensure heat is only released when it's needed (often via a fan-assisted system).

Modern storage heaters also feature a thermostat and timer or programmer. This means you can set heat to be released at a time that suits you (for example when you get up in the morning) and can be varied for each heater depending on your daily needs. This makes operating your heaters much more 'hands-free'. Some models will even allow you to set the programmer and monitor heating remotely via a mobile app.

Upgrading to high heat retention heaters can help reduce your energy bills by around a quarter over older models whilst giving you the control you need to heat your home only when you need it.

Upgrading to new storage heaters may also improve the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating for your home.

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My Checklist

Low Cost Energy Savings

- Buying a new TV, washing machine or dishwasher? Look out for the energy efficiency rating, and go for A-rated or better.
- Get a hot water cylinder jacket. A thick insulating jacket can save around £50 on bills a year.
- Dodge the draught! Fit draught excluders to your windows, doors, letter box and key hole to keep the draughts out and save you £25 per year.
- Fit radiator reflector panels. These slot behind a radiator that's on an outside wall and reflect the heat back into the room.
- Replacing old style lightbulbs with LED and save £30 a year. Plus they don't need changing as frequently.
- Change your head. Fit a water efficient shower head and save £30 a year.
- Insulate your loft. A house loses 25% of heat through the roof. Loft insulation is a cheap way of saving money on your home and can be done yourself.

Draught Proofing Window

Changing to energy efficent light bulb

Loft Insulation

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