

Consumer Guide: New rules for boiler installations in England 2018



Are you having a new boiler
installed?
These changes **WILL** affect you!

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From 6 April 2018, when a new boiler is installed in England, there are additional measures that must now be met. This is a new piece of legislation called 'Boiler Plus'

Boiler Plus sends a clear message to the public; standards are high in the heating industry, technology is world leading and consumers can save money and improve their thermal comfort.

Boiler plus has been introduced by the government department BEIS (the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) and aims to reduce domestic carbon emissions and encourage energy efficiency. Gas-fired heating contributes about 60% of what is spent in a year on energy bills, this new legislation should, therefore, save you money. The requirements are flexible to allow a suitable choice to be made.



So what is Boiler Plus?

- 1. Any Gas boiler installed or replaced in existing dwellings in England must be of a minimum 92% efficiency** (minimum performance standard) under the European rating system (ERP) which aims to phase out poorly performing products.
- 2.** In addition, all new gas and oil boiler installations must include 'boiler interlock, time and temperature controls' (**programmable timer and a thermostat**)
- 3.** Gas combination boilers must also include at least one of the following energy saving options (see next page for explanation) :
 - **Flue Gas Heat Recovery (FGHR)**
 - **Weather compensation**
 - **Load compensation**
 - **Smart thermostat with automation and optimisation**

These changes are not optional as they form part of the building regulations in England which must be adhered to by law. Your Gas Safe or OFTEC registered installer can discuss with you the options suitable for your needs.

You can find registered gas engineers at www.gassaferegister.co.uk and oil installers at www.oftec.org.uk



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1. How will I know if my boiler is compliant i.e. 92% efficient?

From April 6th any gas boiler sold must have a minimum efficiency of 92%, so if you are purchasing your boiler after this date, it should be compliant. If you are unsure check with your registered installer, or contact your boiler manufacturer.

What is a 'Boiler Interlock'?

A boiler should only burn fuel when there is a demand for heat from the boiler, either for the Heating system or Hot Water. When this demand is met, the boiler should switch off again, it should not be able to fire until a new demand is created by the time and temperature controls.

What are time and 'temperature controls'?

Each part of the heating system is required to be controlled by time and temperature. Which means the functionality to set the heating system temperature and operating times. If you have a hot water storage tank make sure you have a programmer (timer) fitted that turns it on and off and a thermostat that regulates the temperature of the water that is stored.

Flue Gas Heat Recovery is a device that is installed inside the boiler, or an additional unit that extracts additional heat from the boiler waste flue gases, enabling you to reuse heat from your boiler that would otherwise be wasted.

Weather Compensation control is communication between the boiler and an outside temperature sensor, or internet weather data, which adjusts the radiator circulating temperature to be hotter when the outside temperature is colder, and at a lower temperature in milder weather, whilst maintaining comfort.

Load Compensation adjusts the radiator circulating temperature to be hotter when the house is cold. Load compensation works by measuring the response of the heating system and controlling the flow temperature dependent upon the required load.

Smart thermostat with automation and optimisation are products that let consumers remotely control their home temperature via a smart/remote device, such as a tablet, smartphone, pc or laptop. Automation is a function which automatically adjusts time and temperature settings, based on occupancy detection and/or stored data from user adjustments over time.

Optimisation is a control function which starts and finishes the boiler operation at the optimum time to achieve the desired temperature when you need it.

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This new legislation is part of the Government's Clean Growth Strategy, aimed at cutting carbon emissions and reducing heating costs whilst making homes warmer and more efficient.

In the last few years, technology has progressed rapidly. Homeowners are becoming more connected. With greater access to smarter technology and more information than ever before, the time is right to set minimum standards for homes.



The new 'Boiler Plus' standards will improve the way many people use energy in their homes by giving them greater choice, greater control, and tangible savings on your energy bills.

For more information or to discuss your specific needs contact;

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