

How to Choose the Right New Boiler for Your Bristol Home



Choosing the right boiler for your Bristol home will depend on your hot water demands and the space available as well as the size of your home and the amount of bathrooms it possesses. If your home is small, a combi boiler might be a good idea to go for as it will both produce hot water directly without the need for a storage cylinder, alternatively if your home is larger you might want to consider system or regular boilers for a higher demand of hot water. Another consideration to make while deciding between boiler choices, includes their output, efficiency rating, warranty and also available space for a [new boiler Bristol](#).

A new boiler can be best identified by one with an existing system check by a trained heating engineer. Through this check, all your existing pipes, radiator's, controls, and hot water demand can be established and a recommended suitable option found to make an informed choice when deciding on a new boiler for your home in Bristol. A correct boiler for your Bristol dwelling can reduce future energy usage as well as being reliable.

Why the Right Boiler Choice Matters

A new boiler is quite a costly purchase and this is one of those occasions where getting it wrong will impact you over time in relation to daily comfort as well as day-to-day energy expenditure. You could end up with poor water pressure, heating taking a prolonged time or unnecessarily costly gas bills, therefore take care during the decision making process. Due to the variety of housing stock available in Bristol, there's not one specific boiler suitable for everyone; by contemplating your household, your needs for hot water and your property dimensions you can make suitably educated questions and reach the most appropriate choice of boiler to fulfil those requirements.

Even having basic knowledge on whether a primary focus is lower heating and gas bills, faster hot water or a compact unit is beneficial for the first conversation you have with the installer.

It is beneficial to make as informed decision at the beginning in order to eliminate the necessity for upgrades later on; for instance, when an insufficient size is later realised once day-to-day life returns to normality. It also helps you in the first place and once speaking with installers the greater understanding you have of your requirements will benefit your decision on which of the installers' proposals is best suited for your home.

Types of New Boilers Available to Bristol Homeowners

Boilers are available in three main types in the UK and each suits different needs. Combi boilers take water direct from the mains and does not require a hot water tank. They are ideal for flats and smaller houses and would benefit smaller homes to give more space to live life within a property without requiring unnecessary space to store tanks.

There are system boilers that operate a hot water cylinder and therefore would be best to have as they are better to draw from all around the house through any taps that are attached to them at any time of day and night without having problems of pressure within your taps.

The last form of boiler available is the regular boiler and alternatively named for heating only a boiler. Both a water cylinder and a cold water tank will be present as system and this method is more ideal to having heat throughout the home from old properties when you are already in the set up provided. Each form of boiler is of a strength to make their individual strengths and therefore one cannot be better compared to the last as it has to suit everyone as it depends on property and household living, not the type. A engineer would help out to tell you what kind of boiler would suit the house if one looked at your actual pipes within your house and if the house already is linked up so you will only need to switch the boiler not the whole piping within house because that takes more effort.

Knowing about different type of boilers to help you talk to the engineer without having to totally take their say.

Matching a Boiler to Your Household Size

The output from a boiler is measured in kilowatts, with a correct output being dependent upon the number of bedrooms, bathrooms and radiators in a property. A unit that is too small will not have sufficient output to adequately meet demand while a boiler that is too big will waste energy and result in unnecessary installation costs. While it is appropriate to use a lower output combi boiler in a one or two bedroom flat in which an

individual or a couple would be dwelling, a family home containing a number of bathrooms will benefit greatly from higher output systems boiler so that a suitable level of domestic hot water is available when required at multiple points in the property.

By matching a unit to a property appropriately, extra cash would not be spent for spare capacity which is unlikely ever to be used.

An appropriate sizing would not take the number of bathrooms into account of an issue without the consideration of actual domestic hot water usage within a particular dwelling i.e., do people shower at the same time/are there occasions that bath hot water levels would drop considerably during filling, therefore during the survey the boiler fitter would size the boiler for this by discussing usage with occupants rather than adhering strictly to room count based estimates.

What Affects the Price of a New Boiler

The total cost of fitting a new boiler will depend on various factors which interact. The type of boiler specified is important as a combi boiler will generally be cheaper to fit than a regular or system boiler requiring a cylinder and extensive pipework. The level of complexity involved in the installation will also effect the cost as a like-for-like replacement should naturally be cheaper than changing boiler type, installing in a different location and upgrading pipework to meet current standards.

Also differing between models is the output, and consequently the brand (higher output units required for larger properties will typically be more expensive than lower output models).

More recognised and reliable brands can command slightly higher prices which should provide adequate comfort that fewer early faults will arise. As is to be expected labour charges will vary between fitters and for this reason when acquiring a quotation ascertain the scope of what has been costed in order to know if anything further will need to be paid by way of additional work once installation is underway; if your fitter offers a price verbally for instance then seek this in writing for peace of mind and a reference in case any dispute arise as regards payment to the final bill.

Energy Efficiency and Running Costs to Consider

Today's boilers run so much more efficiently that, with no other change being made, fitting a direct replacement for an old boiler can cut a significant amount from energy bills. An energy efficiency rating would give you an indication of just how much savings there might be with a [new boiler Bristol](#). Smart thermostats or weather compensation controls, supported by many new boilers, can significantly reduce energy use by precisely managing how the heating responds throughout the day; this will help homes in which the boiler was on at a fairly constant level irrelevant of whether people were in or not. Many of them can also be accessed wirelessly, which provides for added control due to weather changes etc. It makes financial sense in terms of savings over the years on energy costs when you take this small percentage difference across a boiler that you might expect to have for a dozen or so years; however, you do also need to balance a potentially high purchase price with low running costs. If you get a running cost estimate based upon your home and size from an installer then at least it would be a more realistic saving than from a simple energy efficiency rating.

Space and Location Requirements in Your Home

The position into which the boiler is installed will determine both the ease and expense of the installation and the future ease of maintenance of the unit. The compact nature of a combi boiler means it will typically wall-mounted and often housed within a kitchen cupboard or utility room, without the need for a separate tank. System and regular boilers require separate hot water cylinders too and will typically reside in a loft airing cupboard.

Should a decision be taken to move the existing unit on replacement of the boiler, costs and timescales will undoubtedly rise, though if the site of the new unit is discussed with the installer early in proceedings it is sometimes possible to re-use most of the existing pipework.

Ventilation requirements and the positioning of the flue are also factors of considerable importance, particularly the mandatory minimum clearance from nearby windows, doors or neighboring buildings, which may prove problematical when fitting modern combi's in many Victorian streets of Bristol and discussion with a suitable engineer prior to installation can overcome considerable potential aggravation with installation teams, especially if they have not be adequately informed prior to arrival of planned relocation.

Choosing a Qualified Installer in Bristol



Every engineer that installs a gas boiler in the UK needs to have Gas Safe registration, and each householder needs to ask before booking any work. An engineer is legally required to hold a Gas Safe ID card, which you can ask to see or check with the relevant information contained in Gas Safe Register. The easiest way to check on

an engineer is to ask them to present their ID card, or confirm their registration with Gas Safe, then look up on the official website the work they are certified to carry out legally. The final, most crucial check is asking more than one installer in for quotes. Don't only assess this by cost; find out what they include, such as an old unit removal and a basic post-installation service, and what guarantee on the workmanship they will provide to back up the manufacturer warranty. Rushing the decision by accepting the first quote obtained will almost certainly mean you miss the nuances of what each installer offers. You should also investigate their previous local work: friends and neighbors can give feedback on engineers who have carried out recent work on homes near to yours or on similar Bristol properties. Checking online reviews can also give a good indication of their general record of performance; and testimonials will highlight what they usually deliver as a service.

What Happens During the Installation Process

Installation starts with the engineer turning off the water and gas supply and then he or she remove the old boiler. The new boiler is then installed, linked up to original or reconfigured pipe work, and a new flue installed correctly for current standards. After installation the engineer will carry out checks on any leaks, test the gas pressure and test that the boiler fires up efficiently before handing the user control. A simple combination boiler change is likely to take around a day while a more complex install i.e. The changing of boiler types or position will take a bit longer. A reasonable timescale discussed in advance can affect your planning for having no heating/hot water at all while he or she completes work. The good installer, before leaving, will explain the controls of the thermostat and timer, show you how to monitor and top up system pressure if necessary and will address any of your questions about the systems maintenance in its first few days with you. Taking a few minutes to get this explained will avoid a needless call out for something simple with your heating.

Warranties, Guarantees and Registration

Manufacturers' warranties will typically come with a new boiler; depending on which manufacturer and installer type the warranties vary from 2 to 10 years of cover, often with conditions such as that work must be undertaken by an approved and certified gas engineer. The warranty should really be activated quickly following installation by Registering boiler with manufacturer so there is no good reason not to tackle it when installed. In addition to the manufacture warranty most fitters will supply their own workmen-ship guarantee which, if taken out in combination with the manufactures warranty and is correct can prove to be valuable following your installation, though if you fully understand what each one is doing, hopefully there will be little cause to need to exercise both.

Keeping the registration notice from the warranty, alongside the gas safety and building regulations documentation safe and all together helps so should a warranty problem occur during manufacture, as will it should you choose to sell.

Having both digital and physical copies of the documentation in a safe place is a wise addition.

Keeping Your New Boiler Running Well

Getting your new boiler serviced once every year is an easy method to ensure it runs to its full potential, identifying small faults before they become an expensive problem to fix. In addition to prolonging the boiler's life, it generally supports a manufacturer warranty too - without yearly evidence you might find yourself paying for what should be included! Between scheduled services you could always take a moment to monitor the pressure and check the space around your boiler is clear for added precaution.

Many house owners in Bristol have their servicing scheduled annually with their installer which means they also get guaranteed response in an eventuality that they need a breakdown call out!

Taking care of a few maintenance essentials from day one ensures your boiler lasts for years, providing a consistent temperature for your family to live in. Making boiler maintenance part of an annual habit significantly lessens the probability of encountering any faults and an unfortunate absence of hot water or heating.