

SCARF is a company limited by guarantee (No 94819) and a registered charity (No: SCO 006901)

Fact Sheet

REF: 407 USING WET CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM

Setting the boiler

The **boiler thermostat** controls the temperature of the water being pumped through the radiators and the heat exchanger/coil in the indirect hot water tank. It prevents the boiler from overheating, but alone cannot control the temperature of the house effectively.

Where you have other controls, as well as the boiler thermostat, use these to control room and water temperature and set the boiler thermostat at maximum. This means that the boiler is operated at its most efficient.

If the boiler thermostat is the only control you have it is recommended that you set it on high or maximum in the winter and on low or half way between maximum and minimum in the summer.

Timer/programmer

This allows you to switch your heating and hot water off and on automatically so that you have heat and hot water only when you need them. They vary in flexibility - some only allow you to switch your water and heating together, on and off twice a day while others allow you to set up to three on/off periods each day for hot water and heating separately with different patterns for each day of the week. Set your system to come on about half an hour before you need it to allow the house to warm up.

Setting the room and the radiator thermostats

A **room thermostat** reacts to the temperature of the air around it. It is usually positioned in the hall or living room and the recommended setting is between 18-21°C. It switches the circulating pump off, switching the system off. Remember that it is only the air immediately around the thermostat that influences it. To work as intended it has to be positioned where the temperature is representative of the house as a whole.

Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) allow you to set different temperatures in each room. They react to the temperature of the air around them by opening or closing a valve controlling the flow of hot water through the radiator. If you have a room thermostat you should not have a TRV on the radiator in the same room. There should always be one radiator without a TRV to avoid damage to the pump.

Setting the hot water

Hot water thermostats are fitted to the hot water tank or pipe work near the tank. They control the temperature of the water coming out of the taps. The setting should be adjusted to about 60 to 65°C or 140° to 150°F. If you have a **Combi boiler** you will have no hot water tank, a hot water thermostat on the boiler itself will control the temperature of your hot water. **INSULATING YOUR SYSTEM (not applicable to Combi boilers)**

You can reduce the amount of fuel used by your heating system by effective insulation. The important parts of the system are the hot water tank and the pipes between the hot water tank and the boiler. It is recommended that a hot water tank should have a 3" (80mm) thick jacket.

Maintenance

Remember that a CORGI Registered Installer should service all gas appliances once a year. This will ensure safe and efficient operation of systems and appliances.

Mission Statement

SCARF aims to work through partnership to promote sustainable use of energy, eradicate fuel poverty and create sustainable employment and training opportunities.

Core Objectives

- + To provide free impartial and accessible energy efficiency advice and information services to help save energy, save cash and help save the environment.
- + To encourage investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy measures and grant take up for property improvements to achieve affordable warmth.
- + To create sustainable employment and training opportunities.

SCARF Provides

One Stop Energy Advice Shop offers free impartial advice and information:

- + Energy efficiency in the home, business and the community
- + Renewable energy in the home, business and the community
- + Grants for loft and cavity wall insulation
- + Grants for draughtproofing
- + Grants for central heating
- + Grants for renewable energy installations
- + Paying for fuel and fuel suppliers
- + Choice and operation of heating and hot water systems

SCARF also offers:

- + Home visits
- + Home energy checks
- + Presentations and informal training
- + NVQ and City & Guilds Qualifications

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