

Your Guide To

Types of Heating In The Home

Funded through the Energy Industry
Voluntary Redress Scheme'

There are a range of heating systems used in UK homes, knowing how each type works can help you make the right choices for **comfort, control and running costs**

We can help you:



Understanding running costs and efficiency



Keep your home warm and comfortable



Use your heating more efficiently



01925 979123



The Communiversity, L11 0BS



energy@altvalley.co.uk

Central heating with radiators

The most common type of heating in UK homes.



- A boiler heats water which circulates around the home to radiators.
- Can be powered by mains gas, oil, LPG or electricity.
- Provides even warmth throughout the home

Pros

- Efficient and cost effective
- Good for heating multiple rooms
- works well with controls, thermostats, timers

Things To Consider

- Installation cost
- Regular servicing needed
- Bleeding radiators occasionally

Tips

Set your thermostat to 18-21°C for comfort and efficiency. Use a programmer or smart thermostat to control when your heating is on.

Gas Fires

A popular choice for many homes offering instant warmth

- Uses mains natural gas.
- Available in conventional or high-efficiency models.
- Some include thermostatic controls.



Pros

- Quick heat
- Easy to use
- High efficiency models are energy efficient

Things To Consider

- Requires a chimney or flue (most types)
- Can be less efficient than central heating overall

Tips

Use high efficiency (glass-fronted) gas fires for better heat output. Ensure the flue is working and get your fire serviced annually.

GAS/LPG Heaters

Compact heaters that warm a room quickly.



- Can run on mains gas or LPG (bottled gas).
- Often used in living rooms or as a secondary heat source.
- Some models are thermostatically controlled.

Pros

- Quick and effective heat
- Lower installation cost
- Good for individual rooms

Things To Consider

- Less efficient than central heating
- Ongoing running costs
- Requires ventilation

Tips

Use in well-ventilated rooms. Turn down or off when not needed. Consider as a top-up heating option.

Electric Oil-Filled Radiators

Portable heaters filled with oil that heats up and radiates warmth.

- Plug in and use - no installation needed.
- Ideal for occasional or spot heating.



Pros

- Portable and easy to use
- Quiet and safe
- Good for short-term or room-by-room use

Things To Consider

- Takes time to heat up
- Can be costly to run for long periods
- Not ideal for whole-home heating

Tips

Use a timer and only heat the rooms you are using. Turn off when you leave the room.

Electric Storage Heaters

Stores heat overnight and releases it during the day.



- Heats up using cheaper overnight electricity (if on an Economy 7 tariff).
- Releases stored heat gradually.
- Common in older homes.

Pros

- Economical on the right tariff
- No need for boiler or pipes

Things To Consider

- Heat output can be less flexible
- Not suitable for all tariffs
- Bulky and heavy

Tips

Make sure your storage heaters are fully charged overnight. Keep furniture and curtains clear so heat can circulate.

Which Heating Is Right For You?			
Type	Best For	Running Cost	Flexibility
Central Heating	Whole Home Heating	££	High
Gas Fires	Instant warmth in main rooms	££	Medium
GAS/LPG Heaters	Top-up or occasional use	£££	High
Electric Oil-Filled Radiators	Homes on Economy 7	£	Low
Electric Storage Heaters	Short term or room use	£££	High

Funded through the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme



Alt Valley Community Trust

The Communiversity, L11 0BS

☎ **01925 979123**

✉ **energy@altvalley.co.uk**



@savemoneyavct



@SaveMoney_AltValley

Scan for more info

