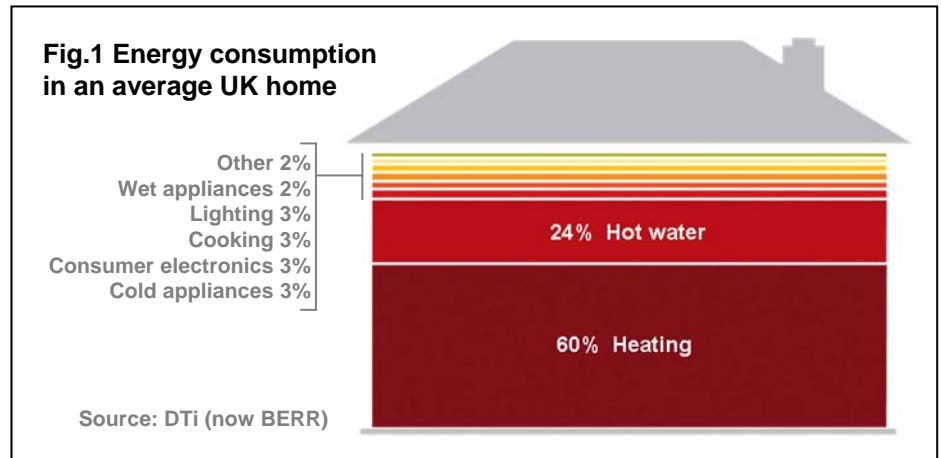




Heating controls & energy efficiency

Why should I add controls to my heating system?

Figure 1 illustrates that Heating and Hot Water provision account for 84% of the energy consumption within a typical home in the UK. This figure is taken from research by BERR (The Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform). In the same research, the amount of energy consumed by lighting is only 3%.



Whenever people talk about energy efficiency in the home, they normally think about changing their light bulbs to low energy types, or switching a few electronic gadgets off instead of leaving them on standby. Insulation is considered, but heating does not register in their minds.

Research from BERR proves that improving the energy efficiency of your heating system by a small amount will have a far bigger effect on the environment than making a big change to your lighting.

The biggest, and easiest way to reduce energy consumption is to reduce the energy used to supply heating and hot water. This does not mean that you must be cold, it just means that you need to control energy use better.

Turning your room thermostat down by 1°C can reduce your heating bill by 10% (Government statistic on www.energysavingtrust.org.uk). In general the average human body is insensitive to a band of temperature of 3°C. Therefore you won't feel the difference in temperature, but will notice a difference in your pocket.

There are only three ways to reduce energy consumption in a heating system:

- Reduce waste - Only heat the parts of the home in use (use CM Zone to split your system into zones)
- Don't overheat your home
- Reduce demand - Heat only when people are home, use a programmable room thermostat to vary the heating programme to suit the lifestyle
- Increase efficiency - Convert fuel to heat more efficiently by fitting controls that allow condensing boilers to condense

All of these can be performed on a home with little or no mess, just by fitting or changing controls. There is no need to change your boiler, just improve the way it works. Install controls to reduce carbon emissions and make a large impact on the overall energy performance of your home. Save money on your heating bills too. For further information see FAQ sheet 'How can I add controls to my heating system?'.

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