



# SOLAR HOT WATER

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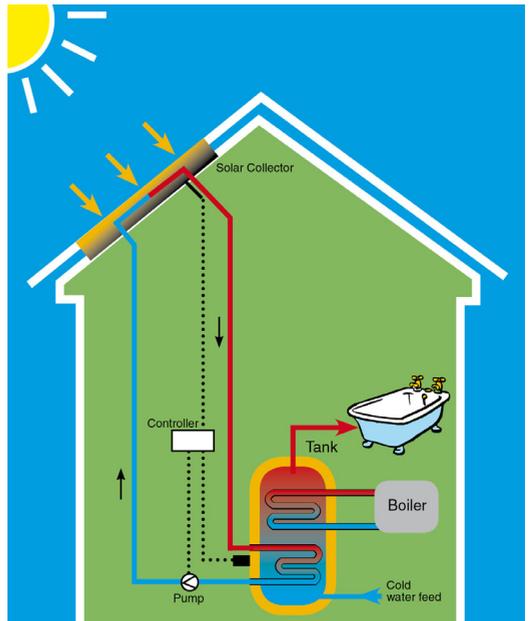
# Solar hot Water

- Your solar system uses daylight to heat water for you to use - get the most out of this FREE energy!
- The system heats water in daylight - it doesn't need to be sunny. Even in the winter, it will still be useful.
- It can sometimes run on the hot water system you already have, though if you don't have a suitable hot water tank this will need to be installed.
- If you use hot water when the sun has had chance to warm it, you'll get hot water at very low cost.

## MAKE IT - USE IT - FREE ENERGY

### HOW does it Work?

Solar hot water systems use the heat from the sun to warm water up to a temperature where it can be safely used in your home. The system uses a collector on your roof to absorb the sun's heat, then transfers it into your hot water tank. An electronic controller compares the temperature of the solar collectors with the temperature in your hot water cylinder. If the mixture of antifreeze and water in the solar collectors is hot enough, it is circulated through the cylinder's heat exchanger, in just the same way as a conventional boiler would. Sometimes, for example in winter, the cylinder may need to be topped-up to usable temperature by conventional heating systems such as boilers.



# Saving money

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The amount you can save using this system depends on how you heat your water normally (gas or electric) but will usually be at least £50 per year\*.

In the summer, the system could even provide all of the hot water you use; and the only cost will be the power needed to run the pumps.

You'll save the most if you use the hot water when the system has had chance to warm up.

The system will usually provide hot water for more than 25 years without being replaced.

## TOP TIPS for Your Solar Hot Water System

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**DO...** make sure your water tank is well insulated, to keep the hot water warm for longer.

**DO...** use your normal hot water system to top up the solar system and make sure the water is warm enough.

**DO...** use your hot water when it's had chance to warm up - such as in the evening of a summer day.

**DO...** remember that a well insulated hot water tank will keep the water hot for several hours, even overnight. So you can still use your solar hot water the morning after a sunny day.

Use your solar hot water for...

- baths
- showers (but not electric showers)
- kitchen taps
- bathroom taps

**DON'T...** waste the water - make sure you have water efficient taps and shower fittings. And remember that showers are much more efficient than baths.

**DON'T FORGET...** you may still be paying for the water you use through a meter, so water efficiency will save you even more. Ring the number on the back of this guide to find out more about this.

\* see Energy Saving Trust

# Find out more...

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If you have internet access, you can find out lots more about solar hot water systems, how they work and what the benefits are, at <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy/Solar-water-heating>

There are many more ways to save on your electricity and gas bills, most of which will cost little or nothing to do, but you'll start saving straight away.

Call the number below to find out more and ask any questions.

For more information on your solar hot water system or home energy saving please contact...



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