

The OFTEC easy guide to...

oil fired appliances

Designed to be robust and long lasting, oil-fired appliances are some of the most efficient you can get. There's a huge choice of floor standing or wall mounted boilers, most of which are suitable for installation inside domestic premises.

Condensing appliances

From 1st April 2008 in the Republic of Ireland, all new and replacement oil boilers must have a minimum seasonal HARP efficiency of 86%. That means that high efficiency condensing boilers must be used, regardless of whether you are installing a boiler in a new build property, or replacing one in an existing dwelling.

Condensing boilers are more efficient than traditional boilers, using less fuel, reducing energy bills and carbon emissions at the same time.

There are exceptions to this rule where it is not feasible or practical to install a condensing boiler in an existing dwelling. In those cases, an assessment should be carried out to determine whether an exemption is allowed. Guidance is available in a document called "Guide to the Condensing Boiler Installation Assessment Procedure for Existing Dwellings", which is available at www.environ.ie/en/tgd/

New build properties

Appliances must meet the minimum HARP efficiency in the new build specification which has been determined by either the builder, developer, architect or consultant. No

variation should take place without prior consultation and agreement with the specifier.

The building regulations are designed to encourage energy conservation in new build, including fully pumped systems with dedicated time and temperature control, and full boiler interlock and zones.

New build properties should also comply with a Maximum Permitted Carbon Dioxide Emission Rate (MPCDER). The actual Carbon Dioxide Emission Rate (CDER) of a property must not exceed the MPCDER which is calculated using the Dwelling Energy Assessment Procedure (DEAP).

These are all measures designed to promote energy efficiency, whilst lowering carbon dioxide emissions.

System controls

Accurate system controls and correct installation can save money by reducing heat wastage. For example, by reducing room temperature by 1°C, consumers can save up to 10% off their annual fuel bill.

From 1st July 2008, all new systems installed in both new and existing dwellings in the republic of Ireland must incorporate the following:

- Full boiler controls, interlock, zones and cylinder thermostat
- Maximum heating zone of 100m²
- Independent time controls for both central heating and domestic hot water





- All appliances and systems must be fully commissioned according to the manufacturer's instructions
- The customer must be supplied with information on operating and maintaining the system.

Maintenance and safety

Oil fired appliances must be serviced as per the manufacturers specification. Sufficient access space must be left for the service and maintenance of the appliance.