

Glossary of terms for Heating/Hot Water Systems in most Irish Homes:

1. **Boiler**

A gas boiler is a heating system that uses gas, typically natural gas or LPG, to heat water for central heating and domestic hot water. It functions by burning gas in a combustion chamber to heat water, which is then circulated through pipes to radiators or used for taps and showers.



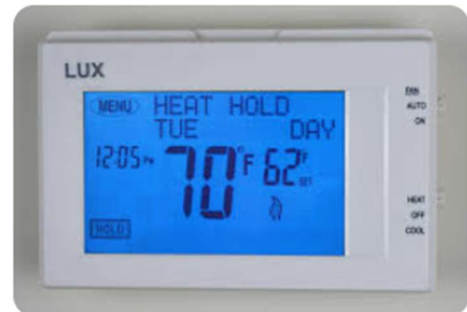
2. Timer

A heating system timer, also known as a programmer or central heating control, is a device that allows you to schedule when your heating and hot water system turns on and off, helping to manage energy usage and maintain a comfortable temperature in your home.



3. Thermostat

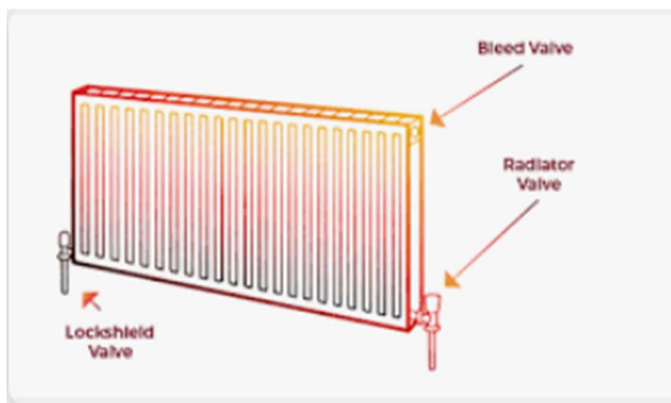
A thermostat is a device that regulates temperature, typically in a building's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. It senses the current room temperature and compares it to a desired "set point" temperature. If the temperature deviates from the set point, the thermostat activates the heating or cooling system to bring the room back to the desired temperature.





4. Radiator

A radiator is a device that transfers heat, typically from a hot fluid (like hot water) to the surrounding air, to warm a room or space. It's a key component of central heating systems in buildings and also found in vehicle cooling systems.



5. Storage Heater

A storage heater is an electric heater that works by storing heat during off-peak hours (usually at night) and releasing it throughout the day. It achieves this by using electricity to heat a core of thermal storage bricks, typically made of clay or ceramic, which then slowly release the heat into the room. These heaters are often used with day/night electricity meters, taking advantage of cheaper night-time rates to heat the home.



6. Cylinder/Hot Water Tank

Usually located in a Hot-press/Airing cupboard

A cylinder water tank, also known as a hot water cylinder or storage tank, is a large, insulated container used to store heated water for later use, particularly in homes and buildings. It is typically connected to a heating system, such as a boiler or heat pump, and provides hot water to various outlets like taps and showers. The water from this tank is not suitable for drinking.



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Domestic hot water...



7. **Mains Water Tank**

Usually located in the attic

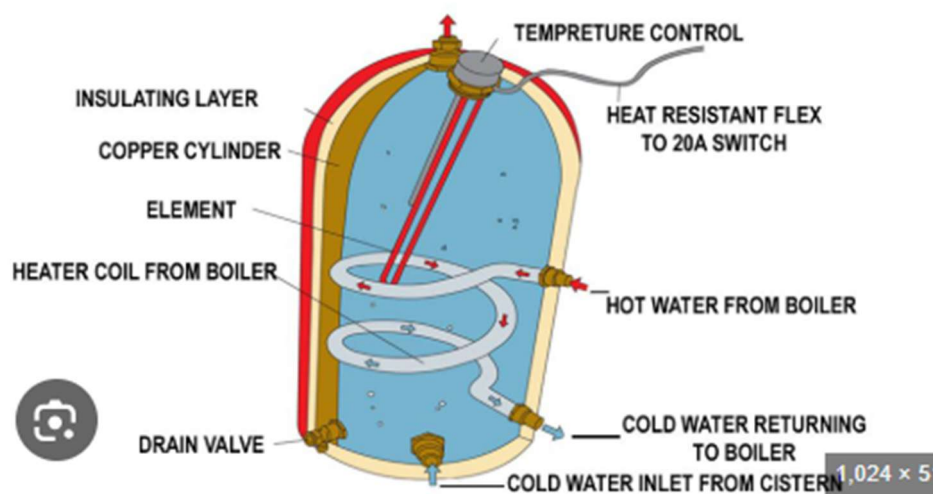
A mains water tank, also known as a cold-water storage tank, is a tank that receives water directly from the municipal water supply (the mains) and stores it for later use. It's often found in older homes or buildings where the hot water system is not directly connected to the mains. These tanks ensure a consistent water supply even if there are interruptions to the mains.



8. Immersion

Immersion Switch is usually located in the Hot-press/Airing Cupboard beside the Hot Water Cylinder.

An immersion heater is an electric heating element, typically installed inside a hot water tank, that uses electricity to heat water. It functions similarly to a large kettle, with an electric resistance heater (usually a coil or loop) submerged in the water. Immersion heaters are often used as a backup hot water system, especially when a boiler fails. They can be easily installed and operated, but are more expensive to run than gas or oil boilers because electricity costs more.



Immersion Switch:



Immersion Heater
Switch



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9. Pump

Usually located in the Hot-press/Airing Cupboard beside the Hot Water Cylinder.

A shower pump is a device that boosts water pressure and flow rate to a shower, primarily used in homes with low water pressure. It works by increasing the volume of water pumped through the pipes, resulting in a stronger shower spray. Shower pumps are typically used in conjunction with a gravity-fed water system where the water source is lower than the showerhead.

