



Solar Hot Water

Solar thermal - tap into the power of the sun

The Earth receives more energy from the Sun in just one hour than is used by the human population in an entire year. Did you know you can harness this energy to heat your hot water? Recent advances in solar thermal technology make it easy.

What are the benefits of a solar thermal installation?

The installation of a solar thermal system at your organisation's premises can bring substantial environmental, social and economic benefits:

- Heat your own water using the free abundant energy of the Sun
- Reduce CO₂ emissions making the UK a cleaner and greener place to live
- Reduce your fuel bills
- Protect yourself from future energy price increases
- A positive way of meeting your organisation's social responsibility
- Take the lead in bringing renewable energy to your community

And to address the most common misconceptions...

- Even in Britain solar thermal heating can provide 50 - 70% of your hot water needs
- 42,000 homes in Britain heat their water using solar thermal systems
- Solar thermal panels are easily integrated into a building's design and come in a variety of shapes and colours. They can be an attractive part of the structure or a feature that complements the architecture
- A solar thermal system requires almost no maintenance and has a life span in excess of 25 years

How much does a solar thermal system cost?

There are a number of grants available to help alleviate the cost:

- Clear Skies
- The Community Renewables Initiative
- Green Tariff Funds





The cost of a solar thermal system varies depending on the size of the system to be installed. However, indicatively, a small scale installation would cost around £2,200.

How does solar thermal work?

A solar water heating system comprises three main components: solar panels, a plumbing system and a hot water cylinder.

1. Solar panels are fitted to the roof and contain collectors. The collectors absorb and retain heat from the Sun's rays and transfer this heat to fluid.
2. The plumbing system is made up of simple piping and sometimes a pump, which moves the heated fluid around the system and through the hot water cylinder.
3. A hot water cylinder stores the hot water that is heated during the day and supplies it for later use.

How do I get started?

Over the past year Creative Environmental Networks (CEN) has committed itself to developing the partnerships, systems and services that will help organisations access renewable energy. CEN offers the following:

- Impartial advice, information and energy audits
- Assistance with grant applications
- Assistance with the planning application process
- Access to discounted manufacturer and installation rates
- Management of large installer network and installation process
- Post installation audits for peace of mind
- Dissemination and local publicity

So what are you waiting for?

It won't cost you the earth. In fact, with numerous grants available, it may not even cost you a penny. Call the REAL project team at CEN on 020 8683 6683 to find out how you can take part in the energy revolution.

Call 020 8683 6683 today!



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