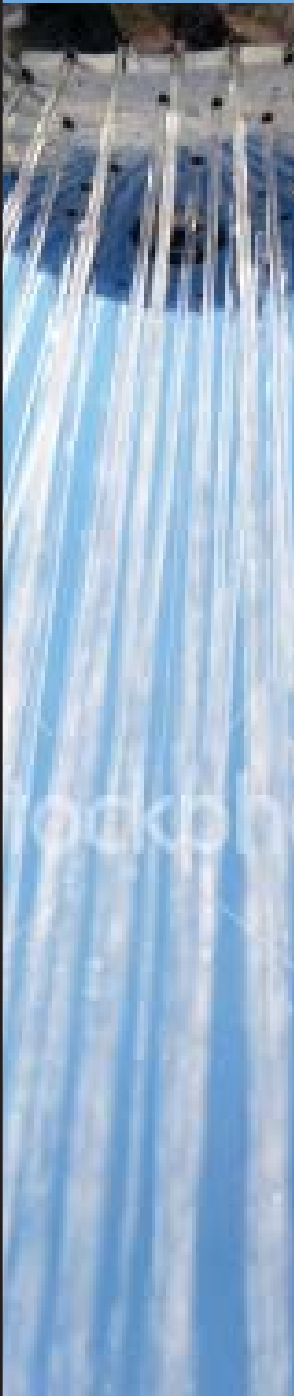


Hot Water Systems For Your Home

Hot water accounts for up to a half of an average household's energy use in NSW. By being Energy Smart, it is possible to reduce your hot water costs by up to 70%.



How To Choose Your Hotwater System

The overall cost of your hot water depends on a number of factors:

- The type and correct size of water heater
- Source of fuel (e.g. solar)
- The way the system is installed
- How you use the hot water

Decision 1: Storage Or Continuous Flow?

Consider the size of your household, the system's purchase and installation price, efficiency and running costs, and life expectancy.

Storage water heaters:

- Water is heated and stored in an insulated tank ready for use throughout the day.
- Operate most economically on solar energy, natural gas or off-peak electricity. They can also run on LPG, peak electricity or solid fuels such as wood.

These systems are available as either mains pressure or constant pressure.

Continuous flow (instantaneous) water heaters:

- Heat water as required - cannot 'run out' of hot water.
- Smaller than storage systems, installed internally or externally (internal gas units must have a flue).
- Connect to the mains water supply and deliver hot water at a slightly reduced pressure.
- May have electronic remote controls for precise temperature control.
- Sized according to the number of hot water outlets likely to be used simultaneously.
- Operate most economically on natural gas, but can also use LPG and general tariff electrically.

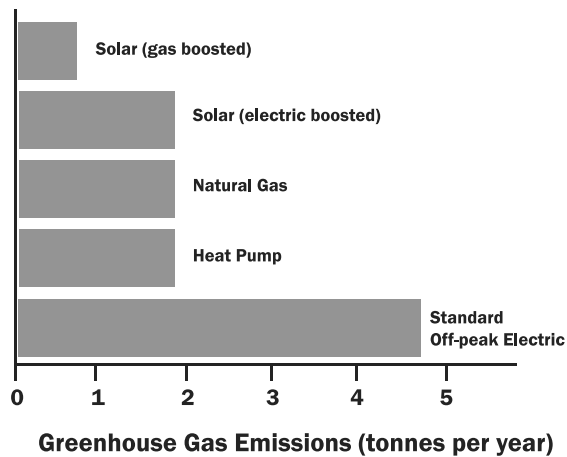
Decision 2: Which Fuel; Electric, Gas Or Solar?

Choosing the correct fuel can make a significant difference to running costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

Natural gas

- Suitable for storage and continuous flow systems.
- Systems are rated for their energy efficiency with energy labels - the more stars, the more energy efficient.
- Internal and external models available.
- Storage gas water heaters have smaller capacities than off-peak electric systems, as water can be reheated at any time of the day or night.
- Avoid continuous flow systems with standing pilot lights.

Greenhouse gas emissions from hot water systems



111 or visit www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au.

Federal Government Greenhouse Office on 1300 130 606 or visit www.greenhouse.gov.au