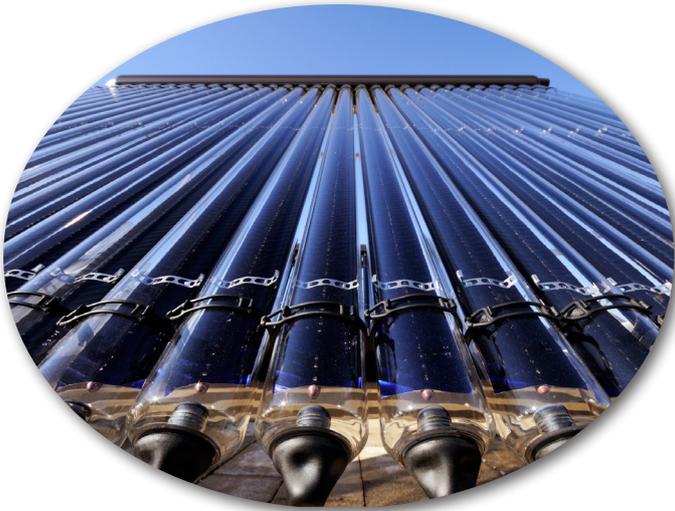


Solar Thermal



Solar Thermal generates free hot water from the power of the sun, saving you hundreds of pounds each year. It is a sensible and sustainable alternative to heating hot water, particularly where you are off the mains gas network and paying huge oil or solid fuel bills.

HOW DOES SOLAR THERMAL WORK?

Solar Thermal systems provide hot water from the sun's rays. As they work by converting daylight rather than sunlight they produce energy even on an overcast day. Solar Thermal collectors, held within the panels on a roof, harness the energy in daylight to heat up fluid in the collectors, which is then circulated through a coil in the hot water cylinder to heat up the water.

HOW MUCH HOT WATER CAN BE PRODUCED?

For large parts of the year, a solar thermal system should meet ALL of your hot water needs, but this will greatly depend on the size of the system installed. Even during the winter, the water is heated above standard mains temperature meaning that your conventional boiler doesn't have to work so hard to heat your water.

WHERE CAN A SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEM BE FITTED?

Solar Thermal is a roof mounted system, however the panels don't always have to be mounted on a roof; they can be fixed to an A-frame on flat roofs.

Most solar water heating systems don't need planning permission but we would always recommend that you check with your local planning officer prior to installation

WILL IT BE SUITABLE FOR MY PROPERTY?

Solar Thermal panels are most efficient on south facing roofs, where they receive most direct sunlight, although east to west facing roofs are also suitable. Roofs which are north facing or shaded by buildings or trees are not recommended.

IS MY CURRENT BOILER COMPATIBLE WITH SOLAR WATER HEATING?

Most conventional boiler and hot water cylinder systems are

compatible with solar water heating. However, if your boiler is a combination (combi) boiler and you don't currently have a hot water cylinder then in most cases an alteration will be needed at the boiler.

HOW MANY COLLECTORS WILL BE REQUIRED?

This will vary depending on the size of the roof and space available. Typically each solar thermal collector will cater for the hot water needs of 2 adults. So a building with 4 occupants will generally only require 2 solar panels. This will increase considerably on a commercial installation.

COST, SAVINGS & MAINTENANCE

The cost of a typical solar water heating system is around £5,500 for a domestic installation and around £8,000 for a small commercial installation.

As well as savings on your annual energy bills, solar thermal installations benefit from the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). This means that the government will pay you to generate your own hot water.

Heat generating technologies will require an annual service and in some cases, this is an essential element of maintaining any Government incentive payment. Our team can provide you with this service - either as an integral part of a new installation or to support any existing technologies you may have.

ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS TO THE RHI PAYMENTS?

To qualify for the RHI payments the system you install must be certified under the MSC (Microgeneration Certification Scheme) and the installer must also be MCS registered. You may also be required to ensure that the system is adequately maintained to continue to receive the RHI.

HOW CAN YOU BE SURE OF THE QUALITY OF THE INSTALLER AND PRODUCTS?

All Futurum installers are registered and where required certified under the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) and we are bound by the REAL Assurance Consumer Code which is your guarantee of best advice and high standards of service. Details of these requirements can be found at www.realassurance.org.uk

If you have any further questions or queries please contact the Futurum team on **01305 755700** or email us at sales@futurumltd.co.uk

