

Gas

Clean energy options for your home

Gas - a hot tip for water heating

From March 1, the Queensland Government requires all new homes to have greenhouse efficient water-heating systems, including either a gas hot water system, a solar hot water heater or an electric heat pump.

The Sustainable Housing Code legislation offers the opportunity for home owners to use the clean energy provided by gas.

Hot water heating accounts for between 30-40 percent of a household's total energy consumption and is therefore a large component of the household energy bill.

Gas hot water systems are inexpensive to purchase and are efficient, reliable and convenient.

There are two basic types of gas hot water heaters - storage systems and continuous systems.

Both types of systems are available in a range of sizes and are suitable for reticulated natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and LPG cylinders.

Storage water heaters

A mains pressure storage system stores heated water in a fully insulated tank, positioned outside your home.

Storage units have an efficient recovery rate as well as a streamlined design that allows for easy placement and installation.

Continuous systems

A continuous system heats water only as required. These units are more compact than their storage counterparts and provide an endless flow of hot water.

Most models also have electronic ignition (no pilot light) and temperature control, so that you'll only heat the water up to the temperature you select.

This avoids wasting costly energy by overheating water only for it to cool down again, as with conventional hot water systems.

Greenhouse friendly

Changing from electric to gas hot water can reduce greenhouse emissions by around one-third.



A continuous gas hot water system is an economical and environmentally friendly option for your home

A household using both gas cooking and gas hot water is one of the most greenhouse-friendly. Changing from electric to gas cooking can save around half a tonne of greenhouse emissions per household each year.

Cooking with natural gas also provides instant heat control and is easy, quick and economical.

Purchasing a gas hot water system

If buying a gas hot water system, look at the star rating labels – the more stars (six is best), the less gas used and the lower the operating costs. This also means reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

A gas hot water heater requires installation by a properly trained and licensed gas plumber/fitter. The time to make a decision about replacing your electric hot water heater with a gas model is before you need it.

If you are renovating your home, your bathroom or your kitchen, consider changing to gas. If possible, replace your existing electric hot water heater at the same time as new gas cooking equipment is installed.

For more information

Find out more about gas in your home by accessing the Department of Energy's Gas website: www.energy.qld.gov.au/gas.cfm

