

Identifying Storage Heaters & Other Electric Room Heaters

Identifying that an electric heating system is the main heating system in a property is generally not complicated. However, identifying what type of electric system it is can become complicated due to the differing types available.

Often people get confused between storage systems and direct acting panel, convector or radiant heaters and getting this wrong will not only affect the rating of the EPC, but also the description and recommendation. This will almost always cause a failure of an audit and therefore it's important to get it correct.

Storage Heaters & Their Controls

Storage heaters should be relatively easy to identify. They are often bulky and extremely heavy due to the weight of the storage bricks. They almost always have feet. They are designed to only release heat after they have gathered their charge, usually overnight. The heat lowers in temperature as the heat is used. A secondary system is usually needed to compensate for this.



Old (Large volume) Storage Heaters

These are larger than modern systems and date from the 1960s and 1970s. There is only ever one cable connected to these and often come in a brown colour like the one to the left.



Modern (Slimline) Storage Heaters

Modern storage heaters are a lot less bulky in size and are as their name suggests 'slimmer' than old storage systems. Again there should only be one cable connection.





Fan Assisted Storage Heaters

Fan assisted storage heaters often look similar to modern systems. The clear way to identify between them is the fan assisted storage systems have two grilles as per the image to the left. Essentially, they are modern storage heaters with a fan to assist in distributing the stored heat.

Integrated Storage and Direct Acting Heater

There are storage heaters which act as a direct acting heater during the day. Known as integrated storage heaters, they have two cables and two sets of controls.



High Heat Retention Storage Heaters (HHRSH)

These storage heaters have advanced controls which allows a timer and often room thermostats to be used to control the system. They use smart technology to estimate heating demands based on room temperature & external temperature. They also have improved insulation.

Please Note: You can **ONLY** select systems on the database.

Manual Charge Control

Manual charge control requires manually setting the input and output dials. The input dial regulates the amount of heat stored overnight usually between 1 and 8 on the dial and the output dial sets the rate at which the heat is omitted, again often between 1 and 8.

Automatic Charge Control

These have a sensor incorporated into the system which monitors the air temperature and adjusts the input accordingly. Usually, the labels show automatic control on. If it doesn't and you are unsure, you can check the devices manual online. If you are still unsure you must enter as worst case scenario. This would be manual.





Storage heaters and electric meters

Convention 4.02 states: If storage heaters are present as main heating but there is only a single rate meter – enter as panel heaters and include **addendum 6**.

Obviously, if they are run on a dual meter, then they must be entered as one of the discussed above.

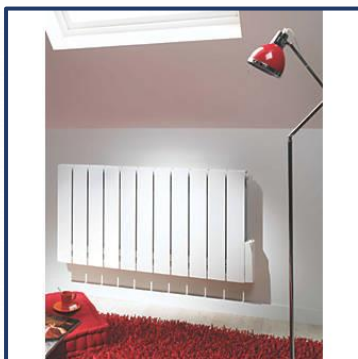
Direct Acting Room Heaters & Their Controls

In RdSAP there are two options for direct acting room heaters. Panel, convactor or radiant heaters & water or oil filled radiators. It's important to make the correct entry and not get them mixed up with storage or other systems. This is because, it will change the description on the EPC, which will result in failure of an audit. In addition to this, these type of heaters produce considerably low SAP ratings and entering them inappropriately could severely affect a client's report.

Fixed Direct Acting Panel, Convactor or Radiant Heaters

These will be a lot less bulky than storage heaters and as the name suggest look like a panel. They are fixed to a wall and not as close to the floor.

Please note: these are different to portable heaters. Portable heaters are not entered in RdSAP as they are assumed in unheated habitable rooms.



Water or Oil Filled Room Heaters

These can be harder to identify. They look similar to panel/convactor heaters but the best way of finding the details, is by searching the make and model online.

Still Need Help?

The Quidos Technical Support team are on hand if you have any further queries:

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