

tec the Environment Centre (tec)

Biomass Heating

What is Biomass Heating?

Biomass heating systems burn wood pellets, chips or logs to provide warmth in a single room or to power central heating and hot water boilers.

What are the costs and savings?

On average a wood-fuelled biomass boiler could save up to £990 a year compared to electric heating. Pellet Boilers on average cost between £9,000 and £21,000 which includes the installation fee, flue and fuel store. The cost of pellets mainly depends on the size and method of delivery. For example, if you have somewhere to store the pellets, then they can be bought and delivered in bulk which works out cheaper. Logs can be cheaper than pellets, but costs depend on the wood suppliers in your local area, as they cost a lot to transport. If you have room to store more than a year's worth of logs you can save money by buying unseasoned logs and letting them season for a year. Some biomass systems are eligible for the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).



Existing System to be replaced	Fuel Bill Savings by replacing old system ** (£ per year)	Carbon Dioxide Savings by replacing old system ** (kg CO ₂ per year)
Gas older (non-condensing)	£205 - £225	4,500 – 6,900kg
Electric (old storage heaters)	£550 - £990	9,100 – 15,300kg
Oil older (non-condensing)	£-215 - £-105 (note this is a loss rather than a saving)	5,500-8,300kg
LPG older (non-condensing)	£725 - £1,065	5,300 – 8,300kg
Coal	£355 - £555	10,000-15,700kg

Sources:

*The Energy Saving Trust
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 Figures are based on fuel prices as of March 2016

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