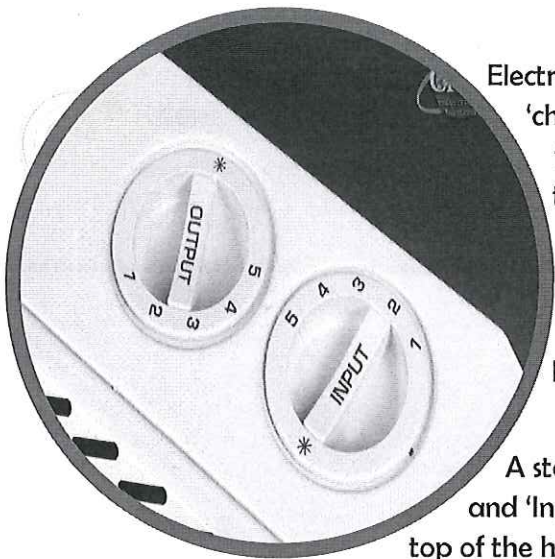


Best Practice Guide

Using Night Storage Heaters Efficiently



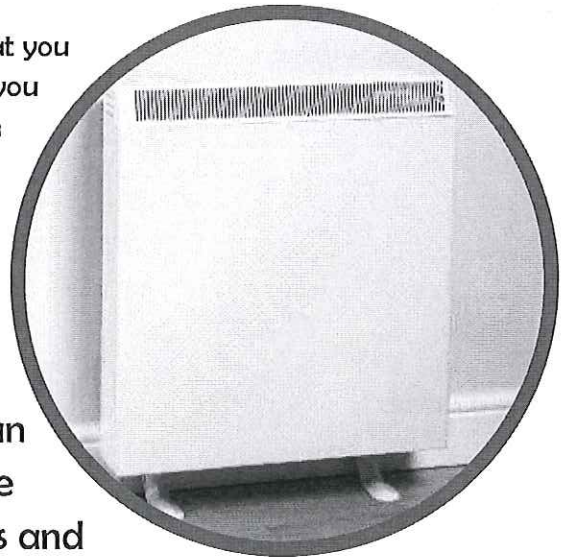
Electric storage heaters use cheaper off-peak electricity to 'charge up' overnight and then release heat during the following day so are only suitable for homes with meters that measure peak and off-peak electricity use separately.

A thermostat inside the heater measures the amount of heat stored and switches off the supply when the thermal bricks inside have reached the programmed temperature.

A standard electric storage heater has two controls, 'Output' and 'Input'. The Output setting will control the vent/flap at the top of the heater, which determines how much heat the heater releases from its thermal store (as long as there is stored heat available).

The Input control, sometimes labelled as 'charge' or overnight' determines how much electricity the heater use during the coming night to heat up its heat storing bricks, and hence how much stored heat will be available the following day.

You need to set the Output dial according to how much heat you want now, and the Input dial according to how much heat you think you will need tomorrow. If a heater runs out of heat in the evening while you still need it, or if the weather gets colder, you may need to turn the Input dial up. If the weather gets warmer, or the heater never runs out of heat in the evening, you can probably save money without getting cold by turning the Input dial down.



Top tip: Turn the Output dial to zero about an hour before you go to bed or go out, so you're not wasting energy overheating empty rooms and ensuring you have some heat stored for release throughout the day.

During warm weather when heating isn't needed, turn night storage heaters off at the wall but don't forget to switch it on again the day before you want your heating to come back on.

