

System Pressure and Topping up your system

Your heating system is a sealed pressurised system with no open vents. It is fitted with an expansion vessel to take up any increase in pressure as the system heats and cools.

The system displays pressure via a pressure gauge, this will typically display pressure in Bar (the unit of measurement on the gauge) Some Gauges will display in segments with an obvious set point or setting range highlighted. In some instances Pressure may be displayed in digital form for example on the LCD Screen of gas boilers.

The pressure gauge is usually to be found at the boiler (with some diesel boiler systems the gauge may be found inside the boiler case)

For almost all boilers systems the standard pressure cold will be 1.5 Bar

Your system should maintain pressure in the long term,

However in the first 4-6 weeks of operation the pressure could drop due to the release of small pockets of residual trapped air from installation. This is released by an automatic air relief in the system or at the boiler.

In this same period you may find the top edge of some radiators become notably cooler in this case there is probably air trapped in the radiator this can be removed by opening the bleed screw a little you will hear air release. Turn off the bleed screw as soon as you see water passing.

In normal operation your system may need a very slight (say 0.1-0.2 Bar) top up annually this is normally attended to by the servicing engineer as part of the required annual service.

If you are experiencing a regular pressure drop, then you have a leak that should be noted to your installer or service provider and rectified.

Topping up pressure

An Installer should always demonstrate how to top up the system as part of their guidance when they handover of your system.

Somewhere near your appliance and gauge your system should have a filling loop. This is normally a braided flexible hose with a valve on each end (The hose may be disconnected but can easily be placed between the two valves and hand tightened) A system must never have a permanent live filling device.

For gas boilers this is typically within the valving set below the boiler or formed in the pipework (in some diesel boilers it will be found within the front case)

Note for some gas boilers the filling loop is an integral component within the appliance in this case you will need to refer to the filling instructions in the user manual.

To top up the system open the valve at one end of the hose then slowly open the valve at the other end and watch the gauge shutting of both of the valves as the required pressure is reached.