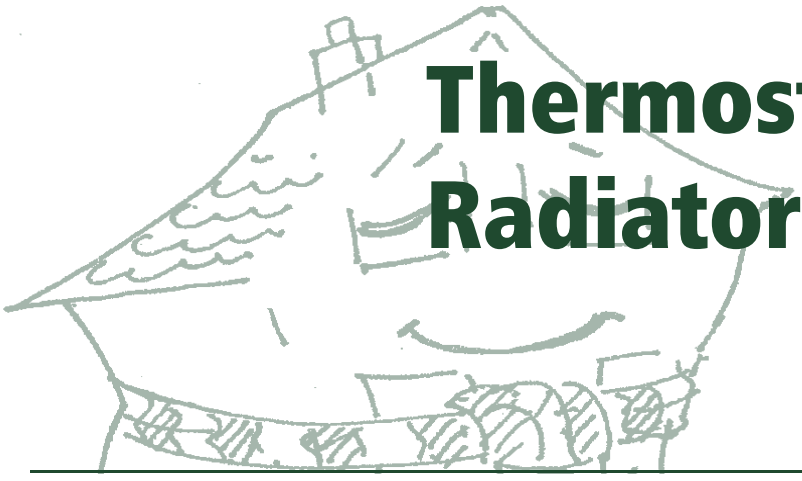

Thermostat on Radiator

What is this control?

This is a Thermostatic Radiator Valve (TRV). You will find it on the pipework at the top or bottom of your radiator.

What does it do?

It gives you greater control over the heat from each individual radiator. Each TRV can be set to a temperature to suit you so you can have different temperatures in different rooms.

What should I set my room thermostat at?

It is best to set your TRVs to a middle setting and see if the room is warm enough. If the room is too warm, turn the TRV down by 1, if the room is too cool, turn the TRV up by 1. A middle setting corresponds approximately to 20°C or 68°F.

Do NOT turn the TRV fully ON or fully OFF to make the room you are in warmer or cooler - this will waste fuel. Turn it a little way and let it do the work.

I like my living room to be warm but do not like a hot bedroom, what should I do?

Set the TRV in the living room to a high setting, and the TRV in the bedroom to a low setting. Your living room should now be warmer than your bedroom and the bedroom should not be too hot.

I don't use two of my bedrooms, should I turn the radiators off?

Not really, as condensation may occur in these bedrooms. Instead, turn the TRV on these radiators down to a low setting or to the star setting (if you have one). The radiator will now only come on if the heating is on and these rooms are very cold.

My heating is on but the radiator in the living room has gone cool, why?

The TRV acts like a tap. When it senses that the room is warm enough, it closes the pipe and stops hot water flowing into the radiator. When the room cools, the TRV opens the pipe and hot water flows back into the radiator and heats it up.

Why is there one radiator in my home without a TRV?

There may be one (or more) radiators in your home, usually the bathroom, which does not have a TRV. This does not mean that one is missing. There needs to be one radiator always open to allow water to flow into it if all the others are turned off to avoid damage to the pump or boiler.

(If you have TRVs on all radiators, you have another type of system which is balanced and therefore does not need this function.)