

# Preparing For Winter Boiler Servicing

## What is a Boiler Service?

A boiler service is similar to an MOT for a car. It's an annual check by a qualified engineer to make sure everything is running as it should. Servicing your boiler also helps spot any issues so they can be resolved before they become a problem.

## Why is a Boiler Service Important?

**Safety:** Regular servicing helps identify and fix potential safety hazards like gas leaks or faulty safety devices.

**Efficiency:** A well-maintained boiler operates more efficiently, potentially saving you money on your energy bills.

**Avoiding Breakdowns:** Servicing can identify potential problems early on, preventing breakdowns and costly repairs down the line.

**Warranty:** Regular servicing is often a requirement to keep your boiler warranty valid.

## What does a Boiler Service Include?

**Visual Checks:** For any issues like leaks or corrosion to pipework.

**Gas Safety Checks:** This includes a tightness test to check for gas leaks, a check of the flue and ventilation, and ensuring that all safety devices are functioning correctly.

**Control Checks:** The engineer will ensure boiler and heating controls are working as they should.

**Cleaning:** The engineer will check and clean various components like the burner, heat exchanger, and condensate trap.

**Pressure Checks:** The engineer will check the system pressure and top it up if needed.

**Documentation:** You should receive a service report confirming that the service has been carried out.

## How long does a boiler service take?

A service can take around 40 minutes to an hour, but this depends on your boiler, its age and its condition.

## How do I find someone to service my boiler?

Use the Gas Safe register's 'find and check' tool to [find a Gas Safe registered engineer near you](#). You can also use it to check whether a business is Gas Safe registered.

## How often should I get my boiler serviced?

It's recommended to have your boiler serviced at least once a year. Some manufacturers may recommend more frequent servicing, especially for newer boilers or those with complex systems

## When should I get my boiler serviced?

Your boiler should be serviced in the warmer months, especially July - September so any problems can be fixed before winter. This means that if you have any issues that require your heating to be switched off, you won't be stuck in a cold home.