

FAQ Sheet

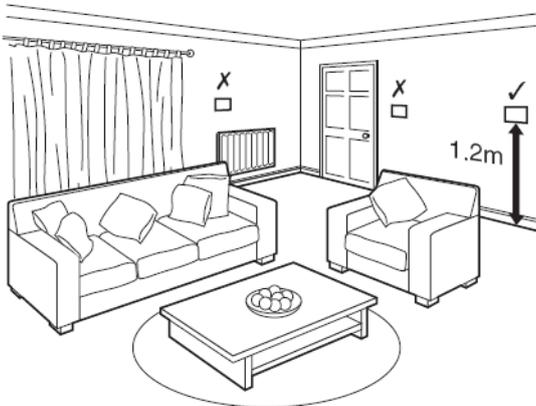
Positioning a room thermostat correctly

The performance of all room thermostats is affected by the air flow across them which they measure. This air flow is dependent on the location of the room thermostat. If a room thermostat is poorly located, the air flow will not be representative of the rest of the room, and the temperature control will be adversely affected.

Because every heating system must have a room thermostat, the decision of where to position it is very important. There are places where a room thermostat should never be found. There are places which need careful consideration before installing a room thermostat. Finally, the places that are left will be good for locating the room thermostat.

Where you should put it

The diagram below gives good guidance on where a thermostat should be fitted.



Locating a room thermostat

Generally, it is very difficult to suggest the perfect position, as every heating system is different. Locate the room thermostat in the heated area (zone) requiring control where it has a free flow of air around it on wall at a height of about 1.2m. But, do make sure that the thermostat is not suffering from any of the adverse factors in the following list.

Where you need to think about it

Some positions for a room thermostat may be perfectly acceptable, but exceptional problems may need to be considered.

- On an external wall. The room thermostat may be on a cold wall, therefore overheating the living space. (Cure: Turn room thermostat down.)
- On a garage wall. Sometimes an electrician may surface mount the cable in the garage and then drill through the wall to access the back of the thermostat. This can allow a very cold draught directly into the back of the thermostat, reducing the sensed temperature, therefore causing serious overheating of the living space. (Cure: Seal the hole with filler.)

Where you should not put it

It is, however, very easy to eliminate all of the bad places to site the room thermostat.

Do not fit a room thermostat:

- In a room with another major heat source, e.g. an open fire, gas fire or cooker
- In an unheated room
- In a room fitted with radiator thermostats
- In direct sunlight
- Behind furniture or curtains
- In a warm draught
- In a cold draught
- Directly opposite a radiator, or other heat source
- Directly above a radiator, or other heat source (Don't forget that electrical appliances emit considerable amounts of heat. E.g. Television, DVD Player, Hi-fi etc)
- In a corner of two walls
- In a corner at the junction of the wall and ceiling

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Where you need to think about it

- On a dry lining wall. If the top of the cavity has not been closed off, there can be a cold draught down between the two skins of the wall. Where the cable comes out to the room thermostat it will allow a cold draught directly into the back of the room thermostat. This will cool down the thermostat, causing it to switch off late, leading to overheating. (Cure: Seal the hole with filler.)
- On an airing cupboard wall. Warmth may enter the back of the room thermostat through the wall or the hole for the cable. This will warm up the thermostat causing it to switch off early. This will lead to the living area being kept too cool. (Cure: Seal the hole with filler, or re-site the room thermostat.)

If you follow the advice contained within this guide then the possibility of your home being too hot or too cold is greatly reduced.