A back boiler is a small, compact boiler fitted at the back of an open fireplace hearth. It sits behind a electric fire (or in the chimney breast) and provides hot water and central heating to the property.

Despite its compact size, a back boiler is more than capable of fulfilling all heating and hot water needs. Back boilers are reliable too, and allow homeowners to run hot water from several taps at once without loss of press.

How Back Boiler Works

Back boilers are generally no longer installed unless it is too complicated or too expensive to install a condensing boiler. They are hidden behind the chimney in your home, with a gas fire front to cover them. Although they are usually a reliable type of boiler, they typically have an efficiency rating of only 78%, whereas new, condensing boilers are usually more than 92% efficient - not only better for the environment, but also easier on your pocket. Back boilers are "open flued" which means that there must be an open vent to allow fresh air in to replace the fumes that go up the flue. This means that if a fault develops with the ventilation, flue or boiler itself, potentially lethal gasses can be released.

Advantages of back boiler

- Could be cheaper to replace if you already have this system
- Reliable reducing the risk of a breakdown
- Space saving if you already have one as it's hidden behind your gas fire

Disadvantages of Back Boiler

- New building regulations make it difficult to install a new back boiler due to poor efficiency
- Open flue means higher risk of fumes leaking into your home

- Space hungry - two tanks are required in the loft and a hot water storage cylinder in the airing cupboard

- Limited choice of fire front

- Draughty and noisy

East Central London, emergency plumber in Hampstead, NW4 emergency plumber in Hendon, NW5 emergency plumber in Kentish town, NW6 emergency plumber in West Hampstead, NW6 emergency plumber in Kilburn Central London (city) East Central London, West Central London EC1, EC2, EC3, EC4, WC1,WC2 Roof Top Air-Conditioning Installers West London W1, W2, W3, W4, W5, W6, W7, W8, W10, W11, W12, W14 Northwest London NW1, NW2, NW3, NW4, NW5, NW6, NW7, NW8, NW9, NW10, NW11 Commercial Catering Refrigeration Breakdown Engineers East London E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8, E9, E10, E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16 E17, E18 North London N1, N2, N4, N5, N6, N7, N8, N9, N11, N13, N14, N15, N18, N21, N22, N12, N16, N17, N19, N20, N21, Enfield EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN5, EN6, EN7, EN8, EN9, South West London SW1, SW2, SW3, SW4, SW5, SW6, SW7, SW8, SW9, SW10, SW11, SW12, SW13, SW14, SW15, SW17, SW18, SW19 Croydon CR0, CR1,

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North West London : NW1 covers the Camden Town, Regent's Park, Chalk Farm North, Chalk Farm Road north Marylebone area, Euston NW1 Euston Square , Regents Park NW1 Somers Town, St. Pancras NW1 Lisson Grove, NW2 Cricklewood, Neasden (also covers Dollis Hill), NW2 Dollis Hill ,NW2 Willesden Green , NW2 Neasden , Fortune Green NW3 Primrose Hill, NW3 Hampstead, Hampstead Heath, Finchley Road, NW3 Fenton Ho. NW3 Hampstead, Swiss Cottage, Kenwood House, Belsize Park), NW4 Hendon, Brent Cross, NW4 Brent Cross, NW4 Hendon NW4 Holders Hill, NW4 Great North Way, Kentish Town NW5 Gospel Oak, NW6 South Hampstead, North Acton, NW5 Kentish Town, NW6 Kilburn, NW6 North End , Kilburn Park , NW6 Brondesbury , NW6 Queen's Park , NW6 West Hampstead , Kilburn, Queens Park (also covers South & West Hampstead, Brondesbury Park, NW7 Mill Hill, NW7 Copthall ,NW7 Mill Hill East , Mill Hill NW7 Highwood Hill , NW7 Abbey Road ,NW8 St.John's Wood, NW9 The Hyde, NW9 West Hendon, NW9 Colindale NW9 Edgware Road ,NW9, Kingsbury NW10 NW8 St John's Wood, NW9 The Hyde, Kingsbury & Colindale, NW10 Willesden, NW11 Harlesden, NW10 Kensal Green, Kensal Rise NW10 Lower Place, Old Oak Common NW10 Park Royal, Stonebridge NW10 Stonebridge Park, NW10 Willesden Junction, Willesden NW11 Golders Hill Park, NW11 Golders Green, NW11 Friern Barnet, NW11 Hampstead Garden Suburb, Harlesden & Kensal Green, NW11 Golders Green, western part of Hampstead Garden Suburb, Awarded Back Boiler Replacement Engineers NW1 Camden NW2 Cricklewood NW3 Gas Fire Installers Neasden NW3 Belsize Park NW4 Hendon, Brent Cross