

## Boilers in the loft

### Advantages (not many)

- Boiler is out the way, if there's lack of space.
- If open flue, less chance of CO Poisoning
- Some boilers are not pretty and there is a lot of pipework

### Disadvantages

- The weather, freezing pipes and boiler.
- Access to boiler controls and gauges, although these can be configured elsewhere.
- Condensing waste is a problem, freezing and waste disposal.
- The boiler itself can suffer being open to the elements, lofts can get very cold and very hot.
- The loft is an inhospitable place the work. Carrying out maintenance and servicing is not best carried out in the loft.
- Needs a wall to be mounted on, not all lofts have a wall.
- Boilers are very heavy; lifting them into the loft is very difficult.
- Nasty pipework up the side of the house. (Gas and condense waste).
- More expensive installation cost.

### Recommendations

- Fit a good loft ladder to aid regular inspection.
- Overdo the lagging to pipes especially the condense pipe.
- Even if the boiler has a frost stat built in fit an external frost stat to protect boiler and pipes.
- The roof needs to have felt under the tiles to help stop pipes freezing.
- If it's a combi boiler fit a separate pressure gauge and filling point downstairs.
- Board the floor around the boiler to provide a work/inspection platform

### My Opinion

I have fitted and will continue to fit boilers in lofts. I don't agree with it but if I'm asked to, I will do it. I always advise not to and will look over the whole property to find a better place for the boiler. I have also taken boilers out of lofts because the customer changed their mind. Lofts are not the best places to work in, feel I should charge more to service a boiler in a loft. I definitely do if I'm installing a boiler in a loft.