



Hot Water

COOLmob Information Sheet on Hot Water

How can I best heat my hot water?

Solar Hot Water Systems

Using the sun to heat your hot water is free. For reliable hot water check your solar hot water panels are not dirty or shaded by trees. Check your booster switch is **turned off** at the switch board unless you have a period of very high hot water usage or many cloudy days.

Upgrading to a Solar Hot Water System

Take advantage of our COOLmob Special Offer: log onto www.coolmob.org

The benefits of solar hot water include:

- It's an investment that pays for itself in as little as 5 years.
- It adds value to your property.
- Save greenhouse gas emissions every day and help fight climate change.
- Why pay for hot water when you can get it for free?



Electric Hot Water Systems

To find out if your hot water tank is losing lots of heat, feel the outside of tank to see if it is hot or just above room temperature. You can wrap your hot water tank with insulation (or use windscreen reflective shade or a blanket) to reduce heat loss. You can also insulate hot water pipes.

Phasing out of Old Hot Water Systems

Across Australia from 2010 greenhouse-intensive hot water systems are being phased-out. This will see owners of existing houses and townhouses located in gas reticulated areas being required to install a greenhouse efficient hot water system (i.e. gas, solar or heat pump) when an existing electric hot water system needs replacing.

However, as less than 1% of the Northern Territory is gas reticulated **the 2010 phase-out will not apply in the Northern Territory** until 2012 when no greenhouse-intensive electric water heaters will be allowed to be installed in houses or townhouses.

Instant Gas and Heat Pump Electric Hot Water Systems

Heat pump electric hot water systems cost a little more than standard electric hot water systems but are approximately 3 times more efficient. Depending on your hot water usage patterns, gas systems may be cheaper to run than electric systems, but not as cheap as **free solar** hot water!