

# 4 things to consider when selecting your next home boiler system

From boiler types, to installation teams and fuel options, there's a lot to consider when selecting the best boiler system for your home! Here are our expert tips on things to keep in mind when getting started.



## 1. What type of fuel is your current system using?

Oil, gas, propane, or something else entirely? The type of heating fuel your current (or ideal future) system uses will mean a lot in the selection and installation process. While it's tempting to change fuel types to the 'cheapest' fuel available, be aware: changing types can incur high updating costs, including adding new fuel lines or removal (and if necessary, excavation) of oil tanks when present.

## 2. What capacity does your boiler need to heat?

Do you live alone, or is your home always bustling? Are you in 1,000 square feet or 50 times that? Home vary dramatically, and so do the boilers that best keep them cozy. Sizing is critical for selecting the

best boiler to keep your home at its maximum comfort level. Selecting a boiler that's too large may lead to short-cycling, which can reduce the service life of a boiler. Selecting one that's too small may just leave you and your family in the cold, no matter how high the thermostat is cranked.

Talk with an expert who can help you choose the correct system for your home and it's individual needs. They will take into account your fuel type, home size and fixtures, and other methods of measure the amount of BTUs needed to properly and efficiently heat your home. [What's a BTU? [Check out our heating glossary!](#)]

Another thing to keep in mind here is your future. A typical boiler has a lifespan of 15-20 years. Are you planning on that new addition a few years down the road? These are all things to keep in mind while working with your [ViPro installation expert](#) to select your ideal system.



### 3. How important is efficiency to you and your family?

The efficiency of modern boilers when compared to old fashioned systems is like night and day. Where outdated boilers may strive to reach 60% (or even less) efficiency, modern, highly engineered boilers are now easily able to reach well over 90% efficiency. [Want to learn more about boiler efficiency? Read our article, Title placeholder here.] Look for the [Energy Star seal](#) (see an example right) and rating on potential options to determine their official efficiency ratings.

While a mid-efficiency boiler (with an efficiency rating of 78-83%) may have a lower initial price tag than a top-of-the-line high efficiency model, the amount saved in fuel costs year over year will more than pay for itself with a high efficiency model. Do you really want to pay less once, only to pay more every month for the next few decades?

### 4. Future care and feeding

After your boiler is professionally installed, ask your new trusted heating partner to walk through the features of your boiler, and make a note on your calendar to give him a call a year from now, even if everything runs perfectly. All boiler manufacturers recommend a yearly service and inspection, no matter how high or low the initial price tag or efficiency level. Just like your going for your yearly checkup is a great way to find small issues before they turn into major health emergencies, a yearly inspection is a good way to eliminate the risk of a full-on heating failure, which, just like an emergency room visit, will rack up a much higher bill than a regular office visit.



Ready to make the leap? Check out our [contractor locator](#) to find the best resource for increasing your home efficiency with [Viessmann](#).