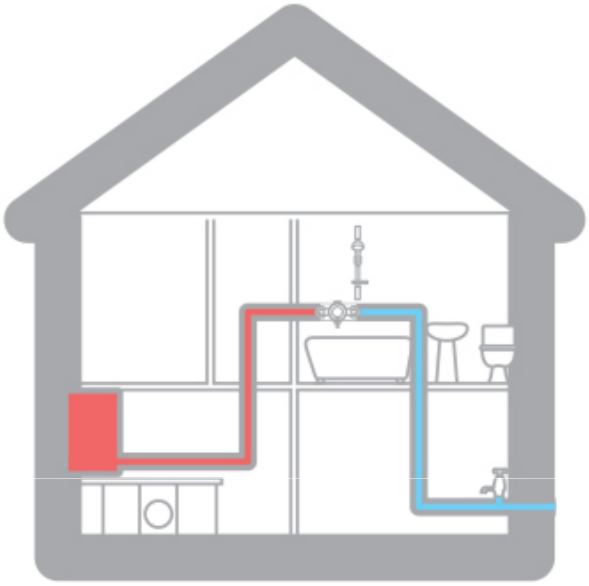
Water systems explained...

Low Pressure Systems

Gravity Fed System

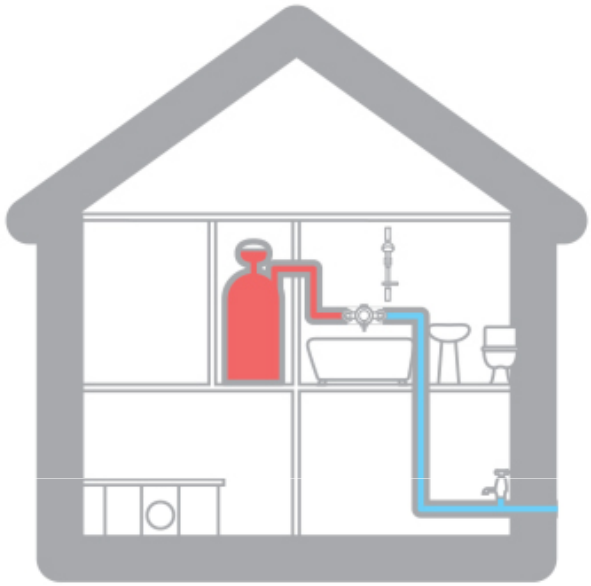
Typical Installation
A cold water tank in your loft and a hot water cylinder often located in your airing cupboard.

High Pressure Systems



Combination Boiler

Typical Installation
There is no cold water tank or hot water cylinder in your house. You will have a combi-boiler often located in your kitchen.



Unvented System

Typical Installation
There is no cold water tank in your house. You will only have a hot water cylinder, with occasionally an expansion vessel on the top, often located in your airing cupboard or garage.

Showers types explained...

ELECTRIC

Electric showers require cold water only which is heated instantly to provide a hot shower.

- An electric shower only heats the water you use once the shower is switched on. It does not use the hot water heated or stored by the household water system.
- An electric shower is always ready to use 24 hours a day seven days a week.
- The higher the kilowatt power rating (kW) the better the performance and greater the flow of heated water.

MIXER

Mixer showers require hot and cold water which is 'mixed' together to provide a hot shower.

- Mixer showers use the hot water heated by the household system.
- Generally produce higher flow rates compared to electric showers.
- Mixer showers must be matched to your household water system. High pressure systems such as combi boilers, are ideal for mixer showers.
- Add a pump on low pressure systems to boost water flow rates.

POWER

Power showers require hot and cold water which is 'mixed' together and the built in pump increases water flow, to provide a powerful hot shower.

- Power showers are made for use on low pressure systems only. An internal pump increases the flow of water to provide a powerful shower.
- Power showers are not to be confused with electric showers as they do not heat water.
- Generally produce higher flow rates than electric showers and many mixer showers.

Electric showers explained...

Water System Compatibility

- Electric showers work in most house holds where there is a cold mains water supply making them a popular choice.

Connectivity

- Electric showers require a mains fed cold water supply and an electric connection.

Operation

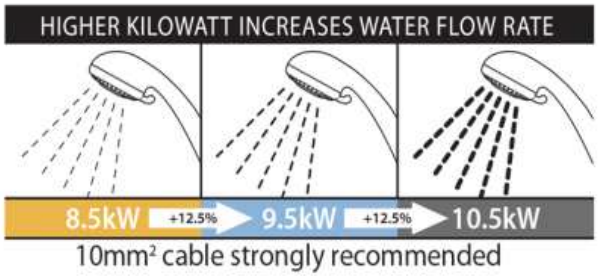
- Electric showers heat cold water instantly to provide a hot shower.

Kilowatt Power Rating

- The higher the kilowatt (kW) rating of an electric shower, the better the performance and flow of heated water, but remember, if upgrading to a higher kilowatt model then the electric cable may need to be upgraded too (10mm^2 cable is strongly recommended for 9.5kW or above).

Kilowatt Performance

- A 10.5kW shower produces 25% greater flow of heated water compared to an 8.5kW model, as shown in the diagram (below).



Entry Positions

- For a replacement electric shower, it is best to check that the shower you are buying can be fitted on the existing cable and water entry positions.

Mixer showers explained...

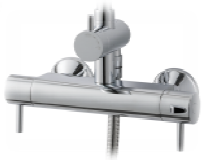
SINGLE LEVER

- Single control lever on the front of the valve adjusts temperature and flow.
- Exposed (surface mounted)

BAR

- Controls on either side of the valve to adjust both temperature and flow.
- Exposed (surface mounted)

BAR DIVERTER



- Controls on either side of the valve adjusting both temperature and flow.
- The diverter changes the flow of water from the fixed position shower head to a flexible handset. Ideal for all the family.
- Exposed (surface mounted)

SEQUENTIAL

- Single control mounted centrally in front of the valve to adjust temperature and flow.
- Exposed (surface mounted)

CONCENTRIC

- Controls both centrally mounted in front of the valve to adjust temperature and flow.
- Exposed (surface mounted)
- Built-in (flush mounted)

DUAL CONTROL

- Two separate controls adjacent to each other, one control for temperature the other to adjust the flow.
- Built-in (flush mounted)

Power showers explained...

Water System Compatibility

- Power showers are suitable for **gravity-fed low pressure water systems ONLY**

Connectivity

- Power showers require a hot and a cold water supply plus an electric connection for the integral pump

Operation

- The hot and cold water is mixed together and the integral pump boosts the water flow to provide a powerful shower at the temperature of your choice.

Performance

- Power showers generally produce a higher flow rate than electric showers and many mixer showers.

Temperature Control

- Manual or thermostatic models are available. The thermostatic version has built-in technology which constantly regulates the temperature and provides a comfortable showering experience every time, regardless of other water usage in the house.

Warning!

Please note: Do not confuse power showers with electric showers because unlike electric showers, power showers **DO NOT heat water**, they use water heated by your system.