



## Is a closed loop ground source heat pump suitable for me?

Energy efficiency first! Before you think about installing a system to generate your own heat, make sure your home is as energy efficient as it can be. All heat-producing systems are most efficient when used in highly insulated buildings. Focus on improving insulation and tackling draughts.

- Is your garden suitable for a ground loop?  
It doesn't have to be particularly big, but it does need to be large enough to run a number of 50 x 1 metre trenches (depending on your heat load). The ground needs to be suitable to either dig trenches or drill boreholes plus it needs to be accessible by the plant machinery.
- Is your home well insulated?  
Since ground source heat pumps work best when producing heat at a lower temperature than traditional boilers it's essential that your home is insulated and draught-proofed for the heating system to be effective.
- What fuel will you be replacing?  
The system will pay for itself much more quickly if it's replacing an oil heating system. Heat pumps may not be the best option for homes using mains gas.
- What type of heating system will you use?  
Ground source heat pumps can perform better with under floor heating systems or warm air heating than with radiator-based systems because of the lower water temperatures required.
- Is the system intended for a new development?  
Combining the installation with other building work can reduce the cost of installing the system.

