

SOLAR THERMAL WATER HEATING

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

To BS 5918 : 1989¹

While a properly designed and installed heating system should be expected to give a service life comparable to that of other types of heating systems, some maintenance may be necessary to maintain the efficiency of the installation.

A maintenance inspection should be carried out annually, the anti-freeze solution should be replaced at 5 year intervals. During a maintenance inspection the following items should be checked:

1. That unions and glands are free from weeps.
2. That the glazing seals are weathertight and sound.
3. That the collector circuit is free from air.
4. That all air eliminators, non-return valves, solenoid valves and motorised valves are operating correctly.
5. That the correct volume is maintained.
6. That the electrical controls are operating correctly to the manufacturer's instructions.
7. That circulating pump is operating without undue noise or vibration.
8. That all insulation is firmly attached.
9. That all covers are in place
10. That no condensation or damp spots are apparent, particularly around the pipes and fixings in the roof.
11. That the roof fixings are firm and the roof covering is free from cracks.
12. That the weathering is properly protecting the structure.
13. That the collector glazing is clean.
14. That there is no damage to the glazing.
15. That there is no evidence of serious corrosion.
16. That any paintwork is sound.
17. That all sensing devices are firmly and properly in place.
18. That the life of the heat transfer fluid has not expired.

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¹ Code of practice for SOLAR HEATING SYSTEMS FOR DOMESTIC HOT WATER British Standards Institution