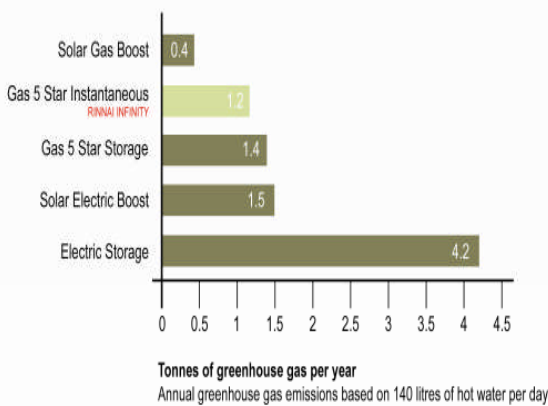


WHY SOLAR HOT WATER?

Every house in Australia should have a solar hot water system. It's that simple. From Perth to Sydney, Darwin to Melbourne, they make environmental and economic sense.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND

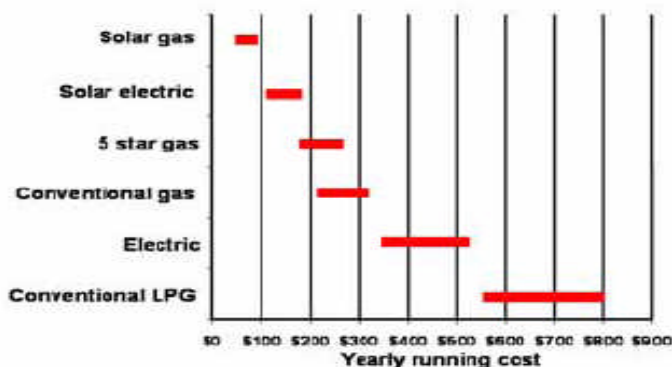
Using fossil fuels to heat hot water is one of the biggest domestic contributions to global warming. A solar hot water system can reduce your home's total production of carbon dioxide by as much as 30%.



Source: Australian Greenhouse Office

ECONOMICALLY SENSIBLE

Despite the initial cost, a solar hot water system is a great long-term investment that has a guaranteed return. In Victoria, a quality solar hot water system for a family will pay itself off against an electric hot water system in 5 to 10 years. In Melbourne you can expect the sun to provide up to 90% of your hot water for free! Coupled with the longevity of the stainless steel and copper tanks from the Rinnai Prestige range, purchasing a solar hot water system is one of the best economic decisions you can make.



Source: www.sustainability.vic.gov.au

INSTALLATION

- You have sunny roof facing north east to north west;
- The roof has a pitch of at least 10° from horizontal (otherwise a panel mounting frame is required);
- Tank can be installed indoors or outdoors;
- The system is properly sized for your needs;
- Going Solar has an extensive network of installers throughout Victoria and Tasmania;
- Installation is usually completed in one day.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does solar hot water work in Victoria?

Solar hot water systems work effectively in Victoria using mature and established technology. Victorians have access to 15% more solar energy than Barcelona in sunny Spain and the same amount as Northern Africa.

Will I run out of hot water if it's not a sunny day?

No. Solar hot water systems are designed to store larger amounts of hot water than a conventional system. Solar heated water stored during a sunny day will be available for the night and any cloudy days that follow. As a back-up, solar hot water systems have either gas or electric boosting. Waste heat (eg from a wood heater) can also be used to boost when solar energy alone is insufficient.

Which collector type is best? Flat plate or evacuated tube?

Often misleadingly sold as a brand new and simply more efficient collector type, evacuated tubes have actually been used in snow prone climates in the northern hemisphere for over twenty years. The truth is that for domestic hot water heating, flat plates are more efficient in temperate and tropical areas and evacuated tubes are more efficient in snow prone locations. Most Victorian locations will see optimal results from a flat plate collector designed for cool temperate climate applications. Flat plates are also a simpler, tougher and generally more sustainable collector. Please discuss the best collector type for your application with one of our solar hot water specialists.

Can solar be used for heating houses, swimming pools and spas in a Victorian winter?

The size and cost of equipment needed to utilise solar energy for heat in a Victorian winter is large and is therefore often not financially or physically viable.

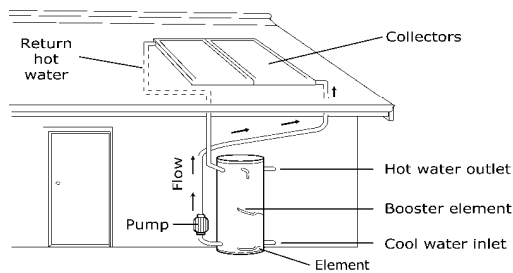
My hot water tank is old and leaking. Will solar hot water take too long to organise?

Our installers can install a temporary hot water service free of charge within a day or two. While there, they will gather all information needed to quote a recommended system. Interruption to your hot water supply will be minimal.

SPLIT SOLAR HOT WATER

These systems have the solar collectors on the roof and the storage tank and booster elsewhere, usually at ground level. A silent, low power pump brings heated water to the tank from the collectors. The pump is operated by a differential solar controller which measures the temperature in both the tank and the panels. It brings heated water when available and also safeguards against overheating in summer and frost damage in winter.

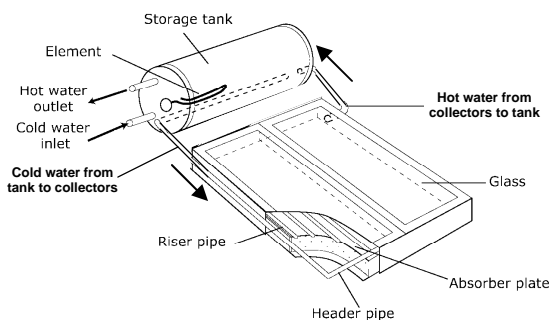
ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Up to 90% savings on your hot water bill in Victoria	Can't be connected to a wood heater
Boosting with instantaneous gas (natural gas or LPG), or by electric element	-
Good water stratification	-



CLOSE COUPLED SOLAR HOT WATER

Simple and effective, these systems have the storage tank on the roof directly above the solar collectors, avoiding the need for a pump and controller

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Up to 90% savings on your hot water bill in Victoria	Tank must be mounted on the roof
Boosting with gas, electricity or a wood stove via a heat exchanger is possible	-
Thermosyphoning - no pump required	-

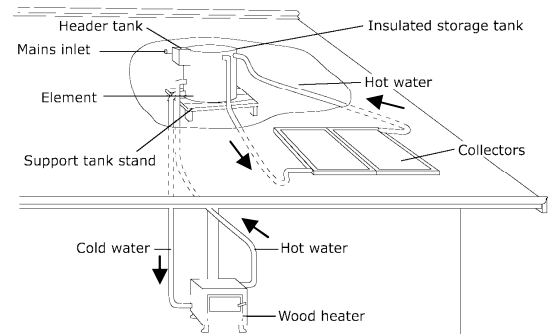


Close-coupled solar hot water system

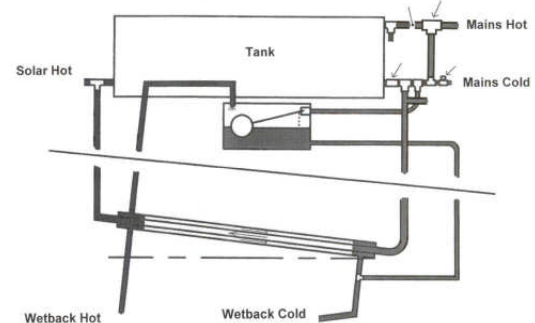
ROOF MASTER GRAVITY FEED SOLAR HOT WATER

Gravity feed systems; constant pressure
Gravity feed systems are perfect for households using a wood heater. The in-roof tank is connected to solar panels for summer hot water, and can be directly connected to a wood heater for winter hot water.

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
60-100% savings on your hot water bill in Victoria	The house must be plumbed for gravity feed delivery
Boosting with a wood stove and/or off-peak electric or gas	Tank should be mounted within the ceiling cavity
Thermosyphoning - no pump required	-



Gravity feed solar hot water system



Mains pressure with wood fire boosting

WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW

1. Do you have a north-facing roof?
If not, which way does it face?
2. No. of bedrooms in the house?
No. of people currently living there?
No. of bathrooms in the house?
3. Type of boosting available?
Natural gas or LPG gas, off-peak electric, wood heater.
4. Where do you get your water from?
Mains (town water), rain water, gravity feed or pump.