



Your guide to

OFTEC approved training and assessment



Registration
Services

With over a million homes in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland using oil or solid fuel heating, there are many business opportunities for anyone wishing to work in today's heating industry. This guide explains the training and assessment you need to work successfully in the oil and solid fuel heating industries.

Where do I start?

To be a competent technician, you will need some training and experience of working with heating appliances. Candidates usually fit into one of three categories:

1 Candidates who are currently OFTEC registered and wish to be reassessed for the areas of work they are currently doing

Candidates in this category can take the assessments without any further training. However, OFTEC recommends that technicians consider retraining to keep up to date with industry changes and developments.

2 Candidates who aren't OFTEC registered but already have relevant skills, knowledge, or experience

Candidates wishing to take oil assessments in this category may already be plumbing or heating engineers, Gas Safe registered technicians or similar, and have the skills and experience necessary to appreciate the concepts and principles of oil-fired heating systems.

Candidates wishing to take solid fuel assessments in this category must have an existing recognised qualification in solid fuel servicing and installation, or have demonstrable, appropriate previous work experience in the construction industry relating to combustion appliances/fuel storage systems.

These candidates need to undertake the training and assessment as detailed in the next section.

3 New entrants to the industry who have no prior experience or relevant skills

Candidates in this category first need to either demonstrate competence by taking an apprenticeship/NVQ in a related trade as per category 2, or gain experience by working with an existing OFTEC registered technician. Once they have gained the necessary experience they can then undertake the training and assessment detailed on the next section.



Where do I go for training?

As an organisation responsible for maintaining high standards in the heating industry, OFTEC works closely with an extensive network of around 80 approved training and assessment centres across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland.

Details for all of our approved centres can be found on our website by following the link:

www.oftec.org/technicians/approved-training-centres

The centres are listed by region to help you find an OFTEC approved centre that is close to you. You can also find out which courses are offered by each centre, as well as contact details and addresses.



Oil training courses explained

There are several different courses available depending on the type of oil-fired equipment you want to work on and the kind of work you wish to do.

OFT10-101 Single stage pressure jet servicing and commissioning

This course is for technicians who wish to service and commission pressure-jet appliances. The vast majority of household boilers fall into this category. The course covers a variety of areas including health and safety, fire valve installation, regional legislation and requirements, safe electrical isolation, knowledge of oil storage and supply, knowledge of appliance installation, knowledge of heating systems, and practical servicing and commissioning.

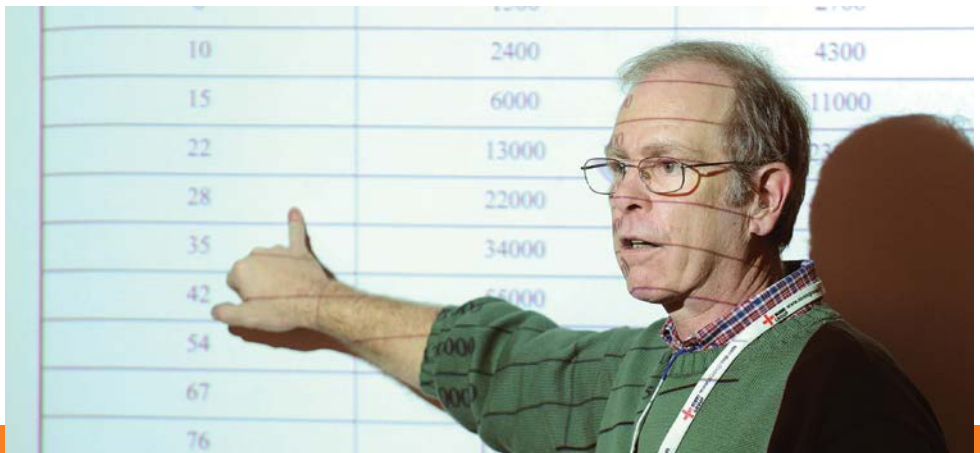
This course is normally run over three days (including assessment).

OFT10-102 Domestic / light commercial servicing and commissioning – vaporising appliances

This course is for technicians who wish to service and commission vaporising appliances, such as many traditional range cookers and room-heaters.

The course covers the same areas as the OFT10-101 above but for vaporising rather than pressure-jet appliances. There are two options for this course - a 'dry' course covering appliances (such as cookers) which are not connected to a central heating system, and a 'wet' course covering appliances which include boilers.

The course is normally run over two or three days (including assessment).





OFT10-105E Installation of oil-fired combustion appliances

This course is for technicians who wish to install oil-fired appliances such as boilers and AGAs.

Areas covered by this course include health and safety, fire valve installation, regional legislation and requirements, safe electrical isolation, knowledge of oil storage and supply, appliance installation, heating systems, and energy efficiency.

The course is normally run over two days (including assessment).

OFT10-600a Installation of oil fuel storage and supply systems

This course is for technicians who wish to install oil tanks and associated pipe work and equipment. Areas covered by this course include health and safety, fire valve installation, regional legislation and requirements, safe electrical isolation, and oil storage and supply.

The course is normally run over one day (including assessment).

OFT10-201 Multi stage pressure jet servicing and commissioning

This course is for technicians who wish to service and commission two and three stage pressure-jet burners, such as fitted to some large domestic and light commercial boilers and warm air heaters. The course covers health and safety, regional legislation and requirements, safe electrical isolation, knowledge of oil storage and supply, and practical servicing and commissioning.

This course is normally run over three days (including assessment).

Combined courses – other options

It is possible to combine some or all of the courses as some modules overlap. For further information contact any of our approved training centres.

Other courses are also available. Please check the OFTEC website or contact your nearest training centre for details.



Solid fuel training courses explained

OFT15-108D - Installation, commissioning and servicing of solid fuel burning appliances (domestic space heating)

This course is for technicians who wish to install, commission and service solid fuel appliances, such as roomheaters, which are not connected to the central heating system. The course covers a variety of areas including health and safety regional legislation and requirements, safe electrical isolation, knowledge of solid fuel storage, the combustion process, appliance installation, ventilation, flues, identifying unsafe situations, and practical servicing and commissioning.

This course is normally run over three or four days (including assessment).

OFT15-108W - Installation, commissioning and servicing of solid fuel burning appliances (domestic space and water heating)

This course follows on from the OFT15-108D above and covers solid fuel appliances connected to central heating systems. Candidates will have to have taken the OFT15-108D before taking this course. The course covers the safe methods of installing a solid fuel appliance connected to a heating system, interlinking solid fuel appliances into an existing heating system, and practical servicing and commissioning.

This course is normally run over two days (including assessment).

What happens after training and assessment?

About four weeks after successfully completing your training and assessment, you will receive a certificate from the Certification Body. Once you receive it you can register with OFTEC – see details of the benefits of OFTEC registration on the next page.



Make the most of your training – become OFTEC registered

Once you receive your certificate, you may apply to become an OFTEC registered technician. OFTEC registration is proof of your competence and provides peace of mind for your customers. Registering with OFTEC enables you to make the most of your training and sets you apart from the 'cowboys'. OFTEC registered technicians also enjoy the following benefits:

- Use of the OFTEC logo on vans, stationery and any other marketing materials
- Installers can self-certify their work for building regulations*
- Free listing on the OFTEC 'find a technician' website search page and a free listing on the Competent Persons Forum website www.competentperson.co.uk
- Free technical support from qualified and experienced staff via phone, fax or email
- Access to low cost business insurance through OFTEC Insurance Services
- Free workmanship warranty insurance for installers
- A network of experienced regional inspectors to provide business help and advice
- Automatic updates for technical books via email
- A range of consumer-friendly marketing leaflets to send out with your quotes, estimates and other customer mailings
- Discounts on equipment and technical publications from OFTEC Direct
- Free Oil Installer magazine, published quarterly and OFTEC's monthly e-newsletter
- Exclusive invitations to trade events
- The chance to influence decisions affecting OFTEC and the heating industry

In addition, OFTEC operates an audited complaints system. This is designed to help both the consumer and technician through what can be a difficult process and achieve a satisfactory resolution when things go wrong.

Following your application for registration, your business processes will be audited and competence checked by an OFTEC inspector. To find out more and apply for registration, visit the joinoftec.com website.

** required in England and Wales, the Channel Isles and Isle of Man.*



Further information

For further general information, please contact OFTEC or visit the OFTEC website (www.oftec.org).

For information on training and assessment prices and times/dates, please contact an OFTEC approved training centre of your choice.

About OFTEC

OFTEC plays a leading role in raising standards within the heating industries of the UK and Republic of Ireland. Our trade association represents the interests of oil storage, appliance and supply equipment manufacturers and we develop course and assessment material for training providers.

We also operate a UKAS accredited competent person registration scheme for over 8,000 technicians involved in the installation and maintenance of oil, solid fuel, renewable heating equipment and undertaking Part P electrical work.

Our online shop, OFTEC Direct, supplies a range of technical books, equipment and clothing products for heating technicians.



**Registration
Services**

Visit www.joinoftec.com or contact our registration team today:
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