

How To Save Money On Fixing Home Appliances

A comprehensive guide on DIY home appliance repairs!



By Kelly Richards

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Disclaimer: This eBook is for informational purposes only, you should never attempt a dangerous repair on your own. Electricity can kill, so when in doubt it is always better to call for an expert to fix home appliances.

Home Appliance Faults - Detecting Problems




HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

1

Detecting Appliance
Problems

 CashFloat

You don't want appliance faults in your home. But how do you avoid them? Cashfloat looks at the most common appliance faults and explains how to prevent them.

Story Highlights:

- *There appear to be more and more recalls of faulty machines, yet only 10-20% of owners return their appliances.*
- *Over the past four years, there have been appliance faults detected on 72 adaptors and chargers.*

New technology means that household appliances are becoming more reliable. However, you only have to take a quick look at the newspapers to realise that there appear to be more and more recalls of faulty machines. Some of these appliance faults can result in fires. One well known example involved Hotpoint, Indesit and Creda tumble dryers catching fire.

We have also all heard about phone chargers that get too hot and start fires. But, there are other appliances that might also have defects which are dangerous. Cashfloat, a responsible [payday loans direct lender](#), points out some of the appliances which could be problematic and also advises you how to make regular checks.

Register your appliances

Unless you have registered your new product with the retailer you are unlikely to receive notification of a recall. When manufacturers undertake a recall for broken appliances, the number of appliance owners who take up the service is between 10% and 20%. This means that there are millions of machines in the UK which could potentially be a problem.

There is now a website called '[Register My Appliance](#)' where you can register all your electrical goods. In the event of a recall, this website will notify you. You will need to input the brand, model and serial number, plus the date of purchase. This is an easy process and it means you will get notification should something be wrong. The website also has a product checker which shows all the appliances that have been subject to recall since 2007. It is easy to check you own appliances against this register.



did you **KNOW**?

You can register all your electrical goods on the Website '**Register My Appliance**'. In the event of a recall, they will notify you.

 CashFloat

Common problematic appliances

1. Phone chargers

There are dozens of appliances that come with a charger or an adaptor. Over the past four years, there have been appliance faults detected on 72 models. Adaptors used for foreign travel and chargers for phones, e-cigarettes and cordless drills are just some of the devices that have been faulty. Phone chargers should not be left plugged in after charging. You should not leave a device on charge unless you are at home. Many fires begin when people leave their phones charging on their bed or sofa. Overheating can soon cause a fire especially on bedding or clothes.

2. Adaptors

Similarly, adaptors may get very hot. If this is happening, you should make sure that they are not being used on an inappropriate appliance. That is, only use the adaptor that has been supplied and not a generic one that you picked up at a bargain price.



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Faulty household appliances account for 60 house fires a week in the UK

3. Extension leads

Extension leads can also cause fires. Even if the lead is not faulty, you can have a problem if you plug in appliances that are not suitable e.g. a washing machine or tumble dryer. It is very easy to overload a power socket. If you often experiencing the fuse box tripping out, or smell any burning, you should immediately unplug the extension lead. It is far better to ask an electrician to fit more power sockets than to overload those power points that are already there

4. Lighting products

Make sure all your [electric appliances are safe to use](#). Most people are not aware that common appliances like lamps and night lights can also cause problems. If you have bought a night light for your child's bedroom, make sure that it is safe and has not been subject to recall. There have been instances of night lights with LED bulbs that do not have an internal fuse. These can cause other components to fail, causing an explosion or a fire. Other recalled products include table lamps, flood lights and spotlight lamps. Over 25 products have been subject to recall in the last few years.

5. Faulty hair dryers / straighteners

Hair dryers are another type of appliance prone to appliance faults. They can cause fires or electric shocks if cheap components have been used. These appliances should not be left plugged in after use. The same advice applies to hair straighteners which reach very high temperatures. Even reputable suppliers have recalled hair straighteners which had accessible live parts and which could give off a lethal electric shock. Most of the products are made in China or Korea so check the country of origin before buying.

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*Over 25% of fires in the UK
are caused by faulty appliances and
leads*



6. Fridge freezers, washing machines and dishwashers

Fridge freezers are one of the most dangerous electrical appliances if they are faulty. There have been instances of these appliances becoming dangerous due to the failure of a small component in the defrost timer. This caused appliance faults due to overheating, resulting in house fires. Along with washing machines and dishwashers, these are the most powerful electrical home appliances. None of them should ever be left running when the house is empty.

There have been instances of dishwashers catching fire with over 600,000 Hotpoint models subject to recall. It is usual for a manufacturer to advertise the recall or you may hear about it on the news. If this happens, it is essential to check if your appliance is one of the models being recalled.

7. Small appliances

Both large and small appliances have been the cause of many house fires. Even a kettle can catch fire if it has not been manufactured to the correct standards and has faulty or cheap components. There have also been instances of kettles causing electric shocks.

Precautions To Take With Electrical Appliances!

There are some precautions you can take to avoid appliance faults and to make sure that you and your family are as safe as possible.

- Buy the safest and best possible model. You can find out the safety rating for home appliances by checking on the ‘Which’ website or another consumer website.
- Always read and follow the instructions provided with the appliance, even if you think you know how to use it. The great strides in technology mean that many standard machines have new features that you may not have come across previously.
- Unless you are a qualified electrician, do not try a DIY fix if a problem occurs. This will invalidate the warranty, and you could be putting yourself at risk. And, try to avoid using extension cables with multiple adapters as these are one of the main causes of fires in the home.
- [Keeping your appliances clean can help you save](#) because it will enhance their longevity, increase efficiency and prevent failure and appliance faults.

Using just a few of these simple precautions will help you to protect your family from harm and allow you full use of your home appliances enjoyably and safely.

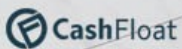
Finding Cheap and Reliable Appliance Repair Near Me



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

2 | Finding Cheap and Reliable Appliance Repair Near Me



Your appliance has broken. What you need now is a working appliance ASAP! Should you go for repairs or should you just buy a new one? How much will repairs cost? How much will a replacement cost? And how do you find a repairman anyway? Read on for all the answers about repairing your appliances, and how to save on your repairs.

Story highlights:

- *Find tips and guidelines about finding appliance repair near you.*
- *Should you repair or replace your appliances? The UK government says repair but it isn't always financially feasible.*

Finding Appliance Repair Near Me

First see if you can fix the fault yourself. For detailed instructions for each appliance, see the table of contents for this guide. But, if you can't fix the appliance yourself, there are a number of ways to find the right man, or woman, for the job.

Most people begin their quest for finding appliance repair by looking locally. This has some advantages. You may know someone who recently called a repairman, or a relative might recommend a specific repairman.

Using a local engineer who has a good reputation is probably the ideal when you need something fixing. A local expert will value their reputation within the community. It is also easier to call back a local repairman if the work is not satisfactory.

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*By repairing household appliances,
UK families collectively save over
£1 billion each year*



How to pay for the appliance repair

If you're on a tight budget, you may be unable to afford to pay a repairman. If you know that you'll have the money soon, sometimes instant [bad credit payday loans](#) are the answer. After submitting your application, you could have the money in your account in a matter of hours. You can then easily pay for the repairs instantly, rather than having to wait until payday before calling your repairman and fixing your appliance.

Top tips to help with appliance repair

What happens when you don't have an engineer or repairman? Here are some important guidelines and tips to help you with your appliance repair.

Search through local newspapers

Albeit old fashioned, one of the best ways to go about finding appliance repair is to search through the advertisements in local newspapers. It could be a local handyman or a whole official business. Either way, make sure you check they're good. A reputable company will be able to supply certificates. They should also be able to show you letters of recommendation from satisfied customers.

If the business is new to the area and is unable or unwilling to supply credentials, then steer clear and choose another company.

Appliance parts and spares

Some engineers will be able to provide spare appliance parts. Take this into consideration when ordering a repairman. A national company will have access to a far wider range of parts and spares. On the other hand, a small one man business may need to order the part required to make the repair.

What machine have you got?

There are some generic parts for appliances which fit all brands. You can get these appliance parts easily. But, if you have an unusual brand or model, you may have to wait a little longer for the repair.

Did you buy a service contract?

When you buy a new appliance, you may be asked to set up a [service contract](#) to cover repairs and maintenance. Most retailers will have a list of preferred appliance repair specialists. So if you have been unable to find one from the advertisements you could ask at the store where you made the purchase.

Even if you did not take out the offered contract, the retailer might be able to recommend reliable appliance repairs.

Nationwide appliance repair

Some appliance repair specialists operate on a national basis. These large companies might have a branch close to your home where you can make inquiries. Or you can contact them by phone, email or online. Or you could join a [national appliance repair service](#) like DASA.

Is it worth the extra cost?

You can find out about these services by searching online. Many of the larger companies promise same day or next day service. If you can't manage without a washing machine, you may want to consider this kind of repair company even though the overall costs could be a bit higher. However, if you really can't afford it without a [wagedayadvance](#), it's usually better to go for the cheapest option.

Getting quotes

Unless the appliance repairs are absolutely vital, it is best to ask for at least two quotations for the repair when finding appliance repair. Check whether a quote is free and that there is no obligation. Also, ask whether or not there is a call out charge for the quote.



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It's recommended to get at least 2 quotations for your appliance repair before you hire an engineer.

Ensure that the work and the engineer are both fully insured. Request a written quotation and check how long the warranty is valid for. You may have to take time off work to meet the engineer. If so, it is important to ensure that they are professional and will turn up at the designated appointment time.

Following these guidelines will help you avoid nasty hidden charges or wasted time while spares are ordered and delivered.

Choosing the right repair company

Consult the ‘Which’ experts – One way of finding a good company for your appliance repairs is to ask the experts at Which. Which is a consumer rights organisation that now has an extensive website where you can find advice, information and help on any number of consumer topics.

The site will give you information about your rights as a consumer, and it has a [list of Trusted Traders](#). You can use Trusted Traders to locate the nearest reputable engineer to your home.

Trusted traders – Trusted Traders shows all the engineers in the area, rated by stars from one to five. Also, there are genuine reviews from customers who have rated the value of service; the quality of service; and the way they were treated (customer service). There is also a map to show you exactly where the traders are located.

Only genuine traders receive the ‘Which’ endorsement so you can be sure of getting a qualified engineer and not a ‘cowboy’ who will botch the job, take your money and run, leaving you in need of a no guarantor small loan to cover the costs of repairing the damage.

Should I repair or replace my appliances?

It has recently been in the news that today’s modern home appliance have ‘built-in obsolescence’. This means that the appliances have been designed to last only for a few years. In the not too distant past, home appliances were designed to last as long as possible and were very expensive. However, now the price of appliances like washing machines and fridge freezers has come down. Therefore they do have a shorter lifespan.

But, on the other hand, large strides have been made in technological breakthrough. The new technology in the latest appliances means that they are designed to be cleaner, better for the environment, more energy efficient and have lower running costs. So, is there a trend towards throwing appliance out when they can be repaired and still be perfectly usable?

Should appliances be recycled?

A recent government initiative has stressed that you should keep your electrical appliances for as long as possible. Once they are no longer usable, the parts can be recycled. So, a major initiative to encourage people not to participate in the current 'throw-away' culture has started. The initiative is designed to help families save substantial amounts of money spent on buying new appliances. Plus, on top of that by encouraging people to chose appliance repairs, the government hopes to reduce the wasted energy used on building new products that are not needed.

The final decision: Are appliance repairs worthwhile?

Choosing to repair an old appliance is not always going to be cost effective either for the person who owns it or for the planet. Paying good money to repair inefficient and outdated models will use more energy than could be saved by investing in a new and more modern equivalent. Of course, the bottom line in the argument about repair or replacement may come down purely to costs. If a new appliance is cheaper than it would cost to have the old one repaired and it is going to cost less to run, then families are going to vote with their pockets and choose the new model every time. If you do choose to replace your old appliance but you don't have the money to do so, you can [click here](#) to apply for a small loan from Cashfloat today!

Everything You Need To Know About Washing Machine Repairs



Your washer is broken and you are at a loss for what to do next! Don't worry Cashfloat have you covered – Here's everything you need to know about washing machine repairs plus how to save money.

Washing Machine Repairs

One of the most essential home appliances today is the washing machine. The days when it took a whole day to do a weekly wash are now thankfully over. However, what happens when one day you start the machine and it refuses to work. Or, in a worse scenario, it pumps out water all over your kitchen floor? The breakdown of an appliance like the washing machine means inconvenience, disruption and it can be costly.

But it also come with a host of questions. How do you go about finding washing machine repairs at an affordable price? How much will repairs cost? Is it worth repairing or should you just replace? Cashfloat, an [instant payday UK lender](#), explains all you need to know about getting your washing machine back up and running.

Do it yourself – Washing machine repair

Before you call out a repairman, check if you can fix the washing machine yourself. Check one these options below for more detail on washing machine repairs.

1. The washing machine will not switch on

First check that the actual wall socket is working. Unplug the washing machine and plug in another electrical appliance that you are sure is working. If that is not the problem, the washing machine could have a faulty connection or a blown fuse. You can fix this yourself by checking the manual or watching a tutorial online. If you are using an extension lead to connect your washer, the lead could be overheating or not have an earth wire. Always connect large appliances like a washing machine directly to the mains power supply. If you don't have a power socket nearby, you can look into getting the washing machine fitted with a longer wire. Alternatively, you can pay a few pounds to get additional wall outlets installed.

2. The washing machine is wobbling

If the machine is wobbling (either during a washing cycle or a spin cycle) it may be that the feet of the machine are not correctly balanced or you may be overloading the machine with laundry.

Another explanation could be a foreign body like some coins is in the machine which can cause a disturbance to the balance. Wobbling can lead to the drum becoming unduly worn when spinning and may eventually cause long term damage. Listen out for excessive noise and check that the machine is correctly balanced on a level floor.



3. Leaking from the washing machine

Leaks may occur through the door or soap dispenser drawers of the washing machine. These can be caused by a build up of minerals especially if you live in a hard water area. Alternatively, the build up could be undissolved soap. Some quick washing machine cleaning can solve the problem. Keep the drawers thoroughly cleaned and prevent mineral build up by using a water softener tablet each time you use the machine.

If your washing machine is not draining correctly, the pump filter could be blocked with hair or other debris. You do need to make sure that you keep your machine clean, but you do not have to pay for expensive professional washing machine cleaning. You can clean it out yourself. The pump filter is usually found behind a small door on the front near to the base of the washer. Check the hand-book if you cannot locate the pump filter.

4. Washing machine is not filling

If there is no interruption to the water supply, then the machine may merely be in between filling cycles. Wait for a few seconds, and it may resume the complete cycle.

A washing machine that is not filling up may have a partially blocked inlet pipe, or there might be a twist in the pipe. Alternatively, the hoses could be perished and causing leaks. Hoses and pipes are relatively cheap to and simple to replace.

Just keep in mind that you should never jeopardise your safety by trying to fix electronic faults with a machine. Safety always comes first. You also don't want to attempt a DIY fix only to cause yourself bigger and more expensive problems further down the line.

Professional washing machine repairs

What happens when you can't fix your washer yourself? The newer models of washing machines and the latest smart appliances may break down due to either mechanical or electrical failure. Parts like the drive belt, the pump or the electronic computer chip which controls the programming for washing cycles can all go wrong. Worn belts can cause slipping, which you can hear. A faulty pump, however, can be identified by water remaining in the drum at the end of the cycle. Alternatively, the pump may simply stop working altogether.

So how do you go about finding a repairman and figuring out how to pay for it? Here we answer a few of the most important questions you will be wondering now.

How much does washing machine repair cost?

Depending on your machine and the washing machine repairman you use, the price will vary. The best way to find out the price of your washing machine repairs is to call a few companies and ask for a quote. But to give you a rough guide, here are some common washing repairs and the average price.

COMMON WASHING MASHINE REPAIRS

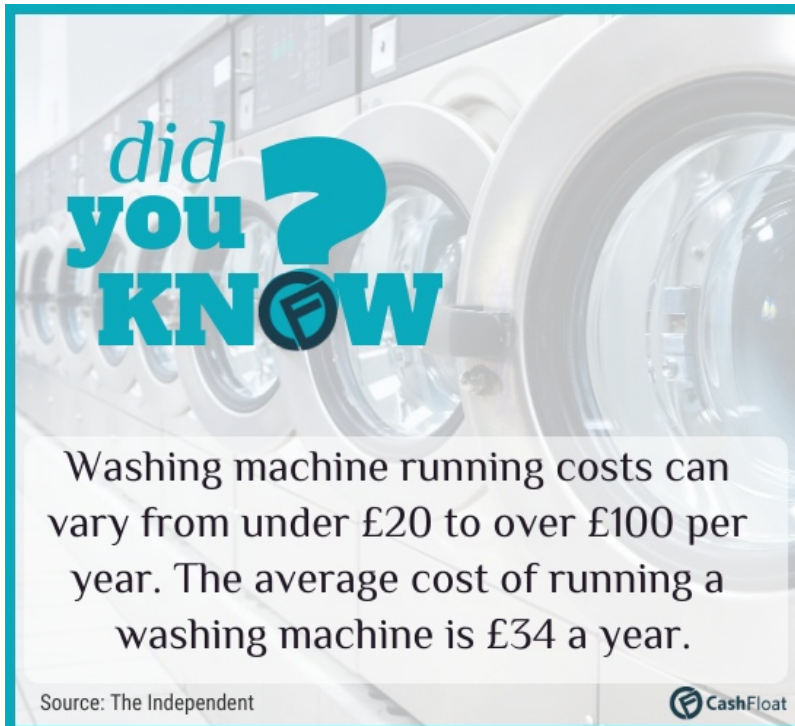
Job (supply and fit new)	Price Range	Average Time
Door seal	£69-£89	0.5-1hr
Motor brushes	£55-£86	0.5-1hr
Motor	£175-£239	1hr
Pump	£72-£92	05-1hr



If you are on a tight budget, you may not be able to afford the repair. If you know that you'll have the money soon, sometimes an instant payday loans can be the perfect solution. Click [here](#) to apply with a responsible lender.

Should I repair or replace my washing machine?


The most important to think about when looking at the price of washing machine repairs is whether to repair or replace. Keep in mind that it is not usually worth paying for those expensive repairs if you can buy a new one for just a little bit extra. For example, some repair companies charge £170 for a repair to an appliance that only cost £200 new. On top of that, washing machines are now much cheaper to buy than a few years ago making it more economical to replace rather than repair. A new washing machine now costs only 1.5% of a monthly salary instead of 8% a few years ago.

Although you might not have the spare cash on hand to purchase a new machine, paying for repairs might simply be throwing money down the drain. Consider securing some [short term funding](#) such as a payday loan or an overdraft to finance your new washing machine.



did
you 
KNOW 

Washing machine running costs can vary from under £20 to over £100 per year. The average cost of running a washing machine is £34 a year.

Source: The Independent 

The infographic features a background image of a row of white washing machines. The text is overlaid on this image. The 'KNOW' part of the title has a large question mark and a dollar sign icon. The source and logo are at the bottom.

Does your machine have a microchip?

The latest machines with varied wash cycle programs are controlled by microchips like those in computers. Although these rarely go wrong, there is always the possibility of a faulty chip which causes constant spinning or constant filling. A problem may also cause the program to abort half way through the cycle. The only way to fix this type of problem is by replacing the microchip which will drive up the price of your repairs.

Does Your Machine Have a Sealed Drum?

Some washing machines have sealed drums which means that replacing parts can be very expensive. (Keep this in mind when you buy a new machine.) The cost for disassembling a drum can run into some hundreds of pounds if you call out the washing machine repairman, making it not worthwhile to pay for a washing machine repair.

There you have the most common problems that can occur with automatic washing machines. Some of these can easily be fixed especially if you are proactive and do not ignore the early warning sights or sounds.

Decided to replace your washing machine?

Here's what to look for in a new washing machine

- **Energy Efficient:** The cost of running the washing machine might be more important in the long run than the price of purchasing it. Keep in mind the energy consumption of the machine.
- **Easy to repair:** A good brand washing machine that allows simple repairs to be carried out without hours of costly labour, so look for one without a sealed drum.
- **Drum size:** They range from 5kg-12kg. It is worth buying a size that you won't struggle to fill.
- **Spin speed:** 1200-1400rpm is standard. Higher spin speed generally uses more electricity and make more noise.

Decided to repair? Finding washing machine repair near me

Below is a list of the most popular washing machine brands – if you have one of these models, it's worth having one of their technicians come fix your machine. They will have technicians countrywide, so they should be able to send someone local within a short amount of time. If your machine is still under warranty, you'll also be entitled to a free call out as well as a free repair.

POPULAR WASHING MACHINE MODEL REPAIRS

Miele washing machine repair	0330 160 6600	Book your visit from Miele
Bosch washing machine repair	0344 892 8979	Book your visit from Bosch
Samsung washing machine repair	0333 000 0333	Book your visit from Samsung
Hotpoint washing machine repair	0344 822 4224	Book your visit from Hotpoint
Indesit washing machine repair	0344 822 4224	Book your visit from Indesit

Alternatively, if you don't have one of these washing machine models, it's still possible to find a cheap and reliable repairman:

- **Ask friends and family:** The first place to start looking is amongst friends and family. Although, it is important to stress that choosing someone who is a friend of a friend or cheap but not a professional could be money thrown away.
- **Local Press:** You can find reputable businesses from advertisements in the local press. Looking for someone with a company in your town may be a better option. If you are not happy with the repair, choosing a local repairman makes it far easier to ask them to return.
- **Online Search:** Conduct a localised Google search for washing machine repair companies or independent engineers. You can also use trusted websites that list [local appliance repairs](#). You might have to fill in a form on the website to state the problem.
- **Contact by Phone:** Use the local phonebook to call a few local washing machine engineers. Make sure to get an estimate quote from each one and compare. Also, ask about any call out charges and fees for spare parts.

Getting fast results

Speed is also important as you will not want to be without your washer for any length of time. Most reputable companies will be able to attend within a few days of your call. Larger businesses may offer an emergency call out. But for this service you may need to pay out more money.

Guarantees and warranties

Finally, the best choice for washing machine repairs is to approach a reputable company that offers quality brand spares and also gives a warranty for the repair. The warranty may only cover the part that has been replaced and not other parts but at least you know that if the same problem arises it will be covered.

Tumble Dryer Repairs YOU Can Do Yourself!



Has your tumble dryer just broken down and you're at loss what to do next? Learn how to do simple tumble dryer repairs with Cashfloat to get your machine up and running. Can't decide whether to repair or replace? Here's what to look out for...

Story highlights:

- *There was a huge tumble dryer recall recently. Find out if yours is a dangerous model.*
- *Learn top DIY tips to fix your tumble dryer yourself.*
- *Discover how much your repairs should cost and whether it is worth repairing or replacing.*

On the face of it, a tumble dryer would appear to be a simple appliance. You put your wet clothes into a drum which turns round and heats the clothes to dry them. However, just a few months ago there was a huge [tumble dryer recall](#). The dryers were deemed to be too dangerous to use as they were catching fire.

At one point firefighters were going out to three fires a day caused by faulty tumble dryers. There was an alert sent out throughout the UK warning families not to use specific brand machines. Whirlpool was one company that recalled defective tumble dryers. They were not only causing thousands of pounds worth of damage but were putting lives at risk too.

What Tumble Dryers are Being Recalled?

The dryers that are prone to fires include Hotpoint, Creda and Indesit tumble dryers made between April 2004 and September 2015. If you have one of these models, list your appliance on RegisterMyAppliance.org.uk to find out if yours is a dangerous model.

Find out if your dryer has been recalled.

Sign up to register my appliance to find details on recalled appliances

www.registermyappliance.org.uk

Which Tumble Dryers are Dangerous?

Unfortunately, there are no warning signs to watch out for in a [faulty tumble dryer](#). You can switch on your machine, go away and then later be confronted with a tumble dryer fire of devastating consequences. So, make sure to check with register my appliance to see if you have a faulty model. If your dryer is one of those that were part of the tumble dryer recall, so, switch off your dryer and do not use until you get it repaired.

Do It Yourself Tumble Dryer Repairs

Tumble dryer won't switch on?



GIVE IT A TRY!

If a tumble dryer won't turn on, often it's a problem that you can fix yourself.

Below are some common reasons that your tumble dryer may refuse to start, and are easy to fix.

Is there something wrong with the power?

A clothes dryer which will not switch on may have no power supply. Check that the plug is securely in the power socket and that the socket is switched on. You can also check the fuse box to see whether the switch has tripped out. If it is, then something is wrong with the appliance.

Checking the power socket itself is another easy way to establish whether the machine has a supply problem. Plug in a separate device that you know is working and see whether power is reaching the socket.

Like all main appliances, a clothes dryer should never be plugged in using an extension lead which can cause overheating. Safety experts are always warning that multi adaptors are one of the main causes of house fires in the UK.

Is the door fully closed?

Modern dryers will not start unless the door is fully closed. So first check that the door is closed properly. The door will close with an emphatic click so look for items of clothing that could be stopping the door from clicking. Also, check that the drum is not overloaded as this can also prevent the door from correctly shutting.

Has the dryer been set at the correct program on the selector switch?

Check that you have selected the right program which will activate the start cycle. Try another program to see whether the selector switch is faulty. If this does not work, you may need to call an engineer. However, there are also some more checks you can do before you reach that point.

The programs on clothes dryers sometimes have a slight delay before they start up, so wait for a minute to see if it starts. Also, some models have a timer on the selector switch that allows a program to start later in the day. The instruction manual will show you if this is an option and also how to deactivate the feature.

Manufacturers are clear that you should not set a program to start when you are away from the house or when you are in bed. There is always a risk of a tumble dryer fire, so you need to be around to check on the machine while it is running.

Has the child lock been switched on?

If the machine has a child lock fitted, this function can stop a program from starting. Check whether this feature has been activated by mistake. Once again the user manual will give you all the help you need.

Condensed tumble dryers

A condenser tumble dryer has a container that collects the moisture from the wet clothes. If this tank is full, it can prevent the next program from starting. There is usually a warning light, but if the bulb is gone, you may not notice until the machine refuses to start. Make sure that you regularly empty the container of water.

Tumble dryer not drying properly, or taking too long?



BEWARE!

If your tumble dryer isn't drying this can be an easy fix. But, be careful not to attempt a repair that is dangerous.

Check each of the options below to see if you can fix the problem yourself before calling the repairman.

Check the filter

Every tumble dryer has a lint filter which collects all the dust that come off clothes. Making sure that this filter is clear will give you optimum results from the drying process. Also, it greatly reduces the risk of tumble dryer fire. The lint filter is usually found in the door of the clothes dryer. If you can't find it, look in the instruction manual.

Check heat settings

Check what heat setting you have selected. Some clothes and fabrics take longer to dry than others. Some require higher heat settings. Choosing a low heat for clothes that are very water absorbent will mean that they take longer to dry. Cotton clothes absorb lots of water so you will need a higher heat setting. Synthetics and wool need a lower heat.

Use the guide in the manual to make sure that you set the right heat setting for optimum results.

Look at the exhaust vent

An exhaust hose that is damaged or kinked will not allow the air to flow from the appliance easily. Additionally, the hose could have a blockage due to excess lint or and obstruction. If you want your machine to work at its best, make sure the hose is completely clear. And, this will also reduce the risk of the engine overheating.

For condenser tumble dryers check that the moisture container is not overfull and is collecting the water properly.

Overloading the dryer drum

This is a simple mistake that can be the cause of poor performance in a tumble dryer. Air is needed to flow around the clothes so never put in too much at one go. The usual recommendation is to fill the machine half way up. But, you can also refer to the manual to see what the manufacturer recommends.

Can you feel the heat when the appliance is working?

A faulty machine that gives out no heat may need an engineer to assess what is wrong. The element in the machine could be broken. In this case, you will need an expert.

If you can feel the heat, but the machine is still taking a long time to dry the clothes the problem could be more complicated.

A noisy tumble dryer



DO SOME DETECTIVE WORK!

Locating the source of the noise can give you a clue to the problem and possible solutions.

A noisy dryer can be really irritating, this may be a simple fix that you can do yourself. However, sometimes you will need to consult with a repairman if the problem is more serious.

Is there something stuck inside?

Excessive noise from a tumble dryer could indicate that there is something foreign in the drum. The usual suspects are coins that have been left in pockets. So it is always worthwhile checking all items of clothing before starting the drying program.

Using drying balls in the tumble dryer

If you are using drying balls in your tumble dryer, you may experience a higher level of noise than usual. Dryer balls can help to separate clothes and are an effective way to increase the performance of the machine. But, there is nothing that can be done to stop the higher noise levels. So, it is up to you to assess whether the drying balls are worth the extra noise.

Is the machine on a level floor?

Like all household appliances, tumble dryers work best when they are completely level on the floor. Extra noise can be caused by an unlevel appliance. But, too much noise could indicate a more serious problem. If you are worried about the noise level, consult with an appliance repairman.

Professional Tumble Dryer Repairs

Don't Take Risks With Tumble Dryers

There are many reasons why a tumble dryer could break down. This appliance is not one with which to take risks. Tumble dryers are considered to be the source of many house fires. So, if you are in any doubt about the machine, it is always best to stop using it and call in an expert.

Even squeaking noises which could indicate a worn drum belt. Also, any indication of overheating is a sign that you should stop using the machine until it has been thoroughly checked out. Although the consensus is that it could be cheaper to buy a new machine instead of going for appliance repair, some simple repairs are worthwhile doing.



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If you are not sure whether making an appliance repair is safe, don't take the risk!

A new belt, bearings for the drum or a new thermostat are three simple repairs that could be cost effective. Take advice from a reputable engineer on whether the cost is worth it. A regular cleaning schedule for filters and condenser dryer containers will help to ensure that your machine gives you value for money.

How Much Does Tumble Dryer Repair Cost?

It's difficult to estimate costs for appliance repairs to a tumble dryer. Some companies will come out on a 'no fix no fee' basis while others will ask for a call out fee just to advise you on the state of the machine. You are best off calling a few different repair companies to get an idea of the price range. If you are waiting until payday to make the repair, but your tumble dryer is a basic household necessity, an instant loan from Cashfloat maybe the perfect solution. Click here to apply with a responsible lender.

As a basic guide, here are some pointers to how much your dryer repairs will cost:

- Gas dryer repair can be more costly. Washer dryer repair service can also be more expensive. But, you can follow the do it yourself dryer repairs listed above, for gas dryers and washer dryers before you choose to approach a repair company.
- Reputable businesses will always include a three month warranty for repairs. In some cases you can pay more for a longer period of protection.
- Many appliance repairmen will charge a call out fee plus an hourly rate, so make sure to ask about this before you order a repair.
- If you need to replace parts in your tumble dryer, you can ask for "pattern parts". These are generic parts that will fit any brand and can cost half the price of the brand-specific parts.

Weighing up the costs for appliance repairs and breakdown insurance may help you to decide whether to repair or replace.

Finding Tumble Dryer Repair Near Me

When looking for a repairman you want to find someone local, cheap and reliable. Cashfloat, a leading [short term loan lender](#) in the UK provides some top tips to help you find a suitable repairman today:

- **Ask family and friends:** The first place to start looking is amongst friends and family. Repairing household appliances is fairly common, and you are most likely to have a family member or friend who is able to recommend a professional repairman.
- **Local press:** Reputable repair companies are often advertised in the local press. Choosing a local repairman is the best option because if you are not happy with the repair, then it will be easy for them to return.
- **Online search:** Conduct a localised Google search for tumble dryer repair companies or independent engineers. You can also use trusted websites that list local appliance repairs. You are almost guaranteed to find a repairman in this way.



Is it worth repairing a dryer?

If your dryer will cost more than 50% of its original cost to repair and is over 50% of the way through its lifespan, then getting a new dryer is often more cost-effective.



Should I Repair or Replace my Dryer?

Your tumble dryer has broken and you don't know whether to replace or repair. On the one hand, you don't have the money to fork out for a new tumble dryer. But should you pour more money into that broken, old tumble dryer? Especially if your tumble dryer is older, you should consider replacing rather than repairing. But where will you [find the cash to pay for a new appliance](#)? That might mean that you opt for repairs instead of replacing.

But, when deciding whether to repair or replace, you should consider more than the price. Tumble dryers are the most frequent causes of fire in the home so if you are in any doubt about the safety of the machine get an expert in.

The modern tumble dryers now on sale are more energy efficient. Studies have shown that you could save up to £500 over a 10 year period just by choosing the right modern appliance for your needs. Having an efficient tumble dryer means you will no longer have to rely on the vagaries of the British weather. You can simply and quickly get your washing dry at low costs which could be as cheap as 30 pence per load.

Everything You Need to Know About Fridge Freezer Repairs



Has your fridge or freezer broken down again? Discover some simple DIY repairs that you can do yourself! Not sure whether you should repair/ replace? Find out with Cashfloat.

Story highlights:

- *You can often identify and fix problems with your fridge yourself, saving on fridge freezer repairs.*
- *Fridge freezer repairs can be costly. Find a guide to appliance repair costs below.*

Every year householders in the UK pay large amounts of money on fridge freezer repairs. Sometimes, it can be well worth paying out for a new fridge freezer especially if you are buying one that is more efficient or a better size for the family. Most families cannot afford to do without a fridge freezer. Therefore, when the fridge freezer starts playing up it can be a major problem especially when both adults in the home are going out to work.

Occasionally, families will choose to buy a new appliance simply because they can't arrange an appointment for a repair company to come assess the problem. Other people assume that a repair will cost the same amount a new appliance and opt to replace to keep things simple. We understand this could be a big expense so if you need help, we're here for you. Apply today with cashfloat, a premium [payday loan direct lender in the UK](#) and receive an instant decision!

Below are some easy DIY fixes that you can do yourself, which will save you the expense of calling a repairman or replacing the appliance altogether.

DIY Fridge Freezer Repairs

Detecting And Identifying Faults With A Fridge Freezer

There are some pointers that could indicate a problem or one that is going to arise soon. Buzzing and humming is quite normal but if the sound increases or changes drastically it can be useful to look at what could be going wrong.

Similarly, if the freezer leaks onto your kitchen floor there could be a problem with the defroster. Listed below are some common problems that occur with fridge freezers that may help you to identify what is wrong and how to fix it.

The fridge freezer refuses to switch on

If you have been away from home for some time and have turned off your fridge freezer, you may find on your return that it will not switch on. When this happens, you need to check that the power is on and that the appliance is properly connected to the socket. Modern electrical fuse boxes have separate circuits for large appliances, power outlets and lights, so it is also best to check that the fuse has not tripped out.

Powerful appliances such as fridge freezers should always be connected directly to the socket. If you have the machine connected by an extension lead, this could also provoke a problem. Extension leads can cause overheating and even a fire. You should always connect the appliance directly to the power socket. If the appliance still does not work, check the troubleshooter guide in the user instructions for more help and advice.

The fridge freezer internal light stops working

When the light inside the fridge stops working, there are some simple reasons. Firstly, it may be that the bulb has blown and just needs replacing. This can be replaced very easily by switching off the appliance, taking off the lamp cover and fitting a new bulb. Always refer to the instructions before replacing any small parts. These will advise you how to fix the lamp.

It is possible that the lamp has merely worked loose and once you access it you can tighten the screw connection which will deal with the fault.

The fridge freezer is not cooling correctly

If you open and close your freezer often, it might cause a problem with cooling. Every time you open the door, cold air is replaced by warm air. This can cause a fault with the efficiency of the machine. You may also see the temperature warning light come on. If this is happening on a regular basis, you may need to call an engineer to assess the engine.

Also make sure that your appliance is set to right temperature.

	Minimum Temperature (Celsius)	Maximum Temperature
Fridge	2 Degrees	6 Degrees
Freezer	-18 Degrees	-22 Degrees

It may be that the setting has been accidentally adjusted and this is one of the simplest things to check before calling an engineer. The instruction manual will show the correct settings for an individual brand and model.

The door doesn't close properly

If the appliance is not level on the floor you can adjust the individual feet. A level fridge freezer will not put pressure on the door or make it swing open. Too much weight in the door shelves can also prevent the door from closing correctly. Or, in older models, there may be a build-up of ice that is preventing the door from closing. You can also check the door seals for wear and tear and get them replaced if necessary.

Food in the fridge are being frozen

The most common reason for this is that the thermostat is set too cold. You can easily check the temperature using a refrigeration thermometer or just use common sense. If your food has ice on it, then the temperature is not correct.

Foodstuffs that are in contact with the rear wall of the appliance can cause them to freeze. This is because the rear wall may be below freezing temperature. Most fridges have shelves that are designed to prevent this from happening but it is another easy check to make before you phone the appliance repairman.

A continuously running motor

If you are always opening and closing the door to your fridge freezer then the motor will be in use continually. The engine will try to keep the inside of the appliance at the optimum temperature. So keep the doors open for as little time as possible to prevent the inside of the appliance from warming up. Most modern appliances have a warning light or bleep sound providing an alert that the doors need closing as soon as possible.

Kitchen Temperature Too High

If the temperature in the kitchen is very high, the appliance motor will have to work harder to keep the internal temperature at the optimum level. Fridge freezers in the UK are designed to work correctly at certain temperatures. Those in hot countries have different optimum settings. A layer of ice at the back of the fridge may also cause the motor to run continuously. The appliance may require defrosting or an adjustment to the temperature setting.

Finally, check that the fridge freezer is not overloaded. This is a common cause of problems with cooling. There should always be space around food items so that air can circulate. Freezing fresh foodstuffs should always be done on the fast freeze function. Some appliances have vents that must always be kept clear. Vents which are covered can freeze over causing problems with efficiency.

Paying for Fridge Freezer Repairs

If you are wondering how you are going to pay for fridge freezer repairs, you are not alone. One of the most common reasons for taking out a [loan online](#) is for emergency appliance repairs. But, a little thinking can save you from relying on credit and might even help you avoid fridge freezer repairs altogether. It is well worthwhile looking at ways to effect a simple repair before adding the cost of a new fridge freezer to your already overloaded credit card or taking out a short term loan.

Things To Consider When Having Problems With A Fridge Freezer

If you need fridge or freezer repairs, it is worth considering these factors before you call out a repairman.

Age of Your Fridge/Freezer

The most important aspect being the age of the appliance. Technology moves very quickly and any fridge freezer over 10 years old will almost certainly be very costly to repair. Spares for old models may be difficult to locate. The energy running costs of old models also make them inefficient and possibly damaging to the environment.

Cost of Fridge Freezer Repairs

If your appliance is not one of the well-known brands or the company that made it has gone out of business This could also cause problems as will any appliance that is built-in. The labour costs for fixing a built-in appliance may outweigh the costs of buying a new one.

Energy Efficiency

Finally, modern fridge freezers have got a whole lot more efficient. Your outdated machine may be adding considerable costs to the home energy bill. The latest models run on far lower costs. Most are now designed so that they perform the defrosting job automatically. If your appliance has an ice maker, this will also make it more expensive to repair.

Should I Repair or Replace my Fridge Freezer?

So you have checked the obvious simple faults listed above which can cause problems with a fridge freezer and it is still not working. You might need to weigh up whether or not it is cost effective to repair the appliance or to buy a new one. It is usually not worth repairing old appliances or very cheap appliances.

Also, it is a good exercise to add up how much the appliance has cost you over the years that you have had it. If you have already spent a fortune on fridge freezer repairs, it is probably not worth pouring more money into the machine. It may be more worth it in the long run to take out a payday express loan to buy you new appliance if you don't have money saved up.

You might think since you already spent so much money on this appliance, it's worth spending more to keep it up and running. That's a logical thought process, but it's ultimately throwing good money after bad money. Any money already spent on repairs is now gone, so don't waste more money trying to recover your losses.

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A freezer over 10 years old is usually not worth repairing

You might think since you already spent so much money on this appliance, it's worth spending more to keep it up and running. That's a logical thought process, but it's ultimately throwing good money after bad money. Any money already spent on repairs is now gone, so don't waste more money trying to recover your losses.

Any fridge freezer that is over ten years old is unlikely to be worth repairing. A new one will be more energy efficient and cost much less to run. The high cost of replacing a side by side expensive large fridge freezer may make repairs cost effective especially if the machine is not too old.

How Much Does Fridge or Freezer Repairs Cost?

The best way to find out how much your appliance repair will cost is to get some quotations. For a rough guide we have included a table to give you some guidelines to help you when calling up repair companies.

Repair	Average Cost	Time
Fit and supply thermostat	£67-£96	1/2-1 hour
Fit and supply door seal or gasket	£66-£100	1/2-1 hour
Replace defroster mechanism or motor	£80-£150	1 hour
Repair ice maker	£180-£280	1/2-1 hour
Replace compressor	£325-£445	1 hour

Decided to Repair? Finding Fridge Freezer Repairs Near Me

When looking for a repairman to fix your broken appliance you want to find someone local, because if you are unhappy with the repair, it will be easier for the repairman to return. To add to this, if you find someone local, the repair is likely to take place quicker. Here are some useful ways to finding someone local to fix your broken fridge freezer.

- **Look in the local newspaper:** Very often local reputable repair companies advertise their services in the papers. But make sure they are good before you take them.
- **Searching online:** Conduct a localised Google search for fridge freezer repair companies or independent engineers. You can also find trusted websites that list local appliance repairs. You might be required to complete a form on the website to state the problem.
- **Contact by phone:** Use the local phonebook to call the fridge freezer engineers that are local to where you live. Make sure to get an estimate quote from each one and compare. Also, ask about any call out charges and fees for spare parts.

Getting Quotations for Your Fridge Freezer Repairs

It is always worthwhile getting more than one quotation for repair work. Even if you usually call the same company for repairs, when a costly item like a fridge freezer is involved, it can pay you to shop around and compare quotes. Always compare like for like as a cheaper quote may not include any warranty on the deal.

Decided to Replace? Buying a Replacement Fridge Freezer

One thing to consider when buying appliances for the kitchen is the energy efficiency of the machine. Modern machines cost so much less to run, and you can save lots of money by investing in the latest technology. Ask your chosen company to take away the old machine and to dispose of it correctly.

Something else to consider is whether you really need a side by side refrigerator with ice maker as these are more prone to breaking down than the simpler bottom top fridge freezer configuration.

did you **KNOW**?

Buying an energy efficient fridge freezer can save up to **£1,000** on energy costs over the appliance's lifetime.

Source: EnergyStar.Gov

Cashfloat

Look for the most [energy efficient appliance](#) that you can afford. There are many websites which show comparison tables and these will help you to make the right decision if you decide to go ahead and replace your essential fridge freezer. If you do need help paying for a new freezer, [click here](#) to borrow 500 pounds from Cashfloat.

FAQs about caring for your fridge or freezer

Here are answers to FAQs you may have about caring for your fridge or freezer.

How should I defrost my freezer?

Here are steps to follow to defrost your freezer efficiently and correctly:

- Ensure the freezer is empty of any food items.
- Unplug the freezer and let the ice melt away. You may need to place some towels around the freezer to help absorb the dripping water.
- To speed up the ice melting, you can use a blow dryer or put a bowl of hot steaming water in the freezer.

How should I clean my fridge or freezer?

- Defrost your freezer and remove any food from your fridge.
- Remove any draws or shelves and soak them in warm soapy water.
- Wipe the interior of the fridge or freezer with a warm soapy cloth.
- For stubborn stains, use a mixture of baking soda and water to loosen the stain.
- Do not use any harsh cleaner, such as disinfectants or bleach, as the chemicals may come in contact with food. Sticking with dishwashing liquid or natural cleaners work very well.

What is the ideal temperature for a fridge?

The preferred temperature for a fridge is somewhere between **1.7° to 3.3° celsius** (35° and 38° Fahrenheit). A refrigerator which is too cold may freeze items, and higher than 3.3° celsius (38° Fahrenheit) may cause foods to spoil quickly.

What is the ideal temperature for a freezer?

Your freezer temperature should be **-18° Celsius** (0° Fahrenheit). It's important to check temperatures regularly and be alert for any spoiled food.

Can you plug in a new fridge or freezer right away?

A fridge or freezer in transit gets shaken around a bit, so it's best to let everything settle before you plug it in. If the fridge or freezer was transported upright, you should give it an hour before you plug it in. If it was transported in its side, you should stand it up and leave it for at least 4 hours before you plug it in.

A Complete Guide to Dishwasher Repairs



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

6 | Dishwasher Repairs

 CashFloat

Your dishwasher is broken? You don't need to start washing up by hand. Here is a list of easy DIY dishwasher repairs. Can't fix the problem yourself? Cashfloat helps you find a local engineer...

Dishwasher Repairs

Your dishwasher's broken and dishes are piling up in the sink? Don't have the spare cash right now to pay for dishwasher repairs? You might be able to fix it yourself and save a small fortune. Cashfloat have a full list of DIY dishwasher repairs that are easy and safe to do. If you can't figure out the problem yourself, we have tips on how to find a suitable engineer.

Do It Yourself Dishwasher Repair

The first worry when your dishwasher breaks is how much the repairs are going to cost. The following tips will help you identify simple problems and fix them yourself, for free, without needing a [short term loan](#) to pay for the repairs.

My dishwasher will not switch on

Power and connections

Double check that the dishwasher is plugged in and that there is power to the wall socket. Also, make sure that the appliance is not connected using an extension lead. A powerful appliance like a dishwasher must be connected directly to the mains supply. Extension leads can get overheated and are the cause of many household fires.

If that is not the problem, you will have to call an electrician. Always remember that electric shocks can and do kill so do not attempt a home dishwasher repairs without disconnecting it totally from the power mains.

My dishwasher won't start

Close the door

If the dishwasher does not start the program, first check that the door is closed correctly. You will hear a distinctive click when the door is fully shut. Cutlery baskets or a large item like a saucepan can stop the door from closing fully.

Next, check that there is nothing in the way of the door latch. The machine is only activated once the door latch clicks shut. You can find the latch on the top inner side of the door. Once the door is closed, look at the selector switch to see if you have chosen the right program, and the start switch has been engaged.

Delayed programming

There will usually be a slight delay after you press the start button. You may hear a slight buzzing sound before the washer starts to fill up. This is normal. If there is a longer delay, then check that the water supply is OK. Try turning on a tap at the sink to check that your supply has not been interrupted from the outside. Also, check that the inlet pipe is properly connected and is not twisted or blocked.

Dishwasher timers

If the dishwasher has a timer setting, then check that you have not mistakenly activated it. A timer can have settings that delay the program for between 3 and 12 hours. Manufacturers recommend that dishwashers should always be monitored when it is turned on.

Child lock function

Most modern appliances incorporate a child lock as standard. This feature prevents a child from switching the program around once it has started. Check that you did not select this feature.

As always it is a good idea to look at the user manual supplied with the machine for troubleshooting tips. If none of these actions has worked then the best option is to call an engineer to diagnose the fault.

My dishwasher is making a noise

Correct doses of dishwasher soap

Using the right amount of powder or a tablet is essential when using a dishwasher. Excessive amounts of powder can cause too much foam, resulting in more noise. It will also mean reduced performance for cleaning the dishes. The dishwasher will have a maximum powder fill level so always stick to the recommended dose.

Obstructions in the machine

Excessive noise can also be due to pots and pans obstructing the spray arms of the dishwasher. If the noise is very loud, then switch off the machine and open the door (making sure you do not burn yourself on the steam or hot water).



Check the spray arms for obstructions. You can easily see whether anything is obstructing the arms by gently turning them around. Make sure that the machine has been loaded correctly in line with the manufacturer's instructions and you will be able to stop the excessive noise.

My dishwasher will not drain

Cleaning the filters

The first thing to check is that the filters are clean. You should do this regularly. The user manual will show you how to clean the filters which are located underneath the baskets in the bottom of the machine.

Check the drain hose

At the rear of the machine, you will find the drain hose. Check to ensure that it is not bent or kinked. This would restrict the flow of water and could cause the machine to be inadequate when draining during the washing cycle.

If you recently moved your dishwasher, the drain hose might have become stuck. You can free it up, and the appliance should start working normally again. If the drain hose is ok, you will have to call an expert to take a look at the machine and diagnose the reason why it will not drain correctly.

My dishwasher is not cleaning properly

Hard water areas

In areas where there is hard water, you might see a white film on glasses after cleaning caused by limescale. You can avoid limescale by using the recommended dose of dishwasher salt which will help to clean the water as well as the dishes.

Salt reservoirs should be checked and regularly topped up to ensure good results. The user manual will give advice about how to top up the salt tank.

Remnants of food on the dishes

If the filters on your machine are clean, then you should be getting good results. However, one important point to remember is that a dishwasher filter can only cope with subtle amounts of food particles, so be sure to rinse large pieces of food off the plates before you put them in the appliance.

Streaks on glassware

If your glasses are coming out of the dishwasher with streaks on them, you may need to adjust the amount of rinse aid that is being dispensed in the final part of the cycle. Once again check your user manual for instructions on how to do this small job. Or, [look on Youtube for a video tutorial](#).

Blockages in the spray arms

The sprays are the most important feature and emit pressured water to clean the dishes. If the small holes in the spray arms become blocked, it will compromise the cleaning performance.

Spray holes can become blocked with small food particles or mineral deposits from hard water. You can easily clean the holes with a small cocktail stick and then run them through with fresh water. This should help to ensure the perfect results that you were expecting from your appliance.

My dishwasher is leaking

Door seals and blockages

If the dishwasher is leaking the first thing to check is that the door is correctly closed and has not been blocked by pressure from dishes or pots and pans that have been incorrectly loaded.

Check the door seals for wear and tear. It is also possible that if the water supply is hard, then there could be a build-up of mineral deposit on the seals. Finally, food debris can also prevent the seal from working correctly so check for this. If you have puddles underneath your dishwasher, they are probably coming from the back of the machine. This could be due to a damaged inlet or outlet hose. If these are intact, then the fault is probably more complicated, and you will need to call an engineer.

Should I Repair or Replace my Dishwasher?

If you can't fix your dishwasher yourself, you might have to call in a repairman. But sometimes it works out so expensive to call a repairman that it might not be worthwhile. Read on to find out when it is cost efficient to call in the dishwasher repairs service.

Finding Dishwasher Repair Near Me

Below is a list of the most popular dishwasher brands. If you have one of these models, it's worth having one of their engineers come fix your machine. They will have workers countrywide, so they should be able to send you out a local engineer within a short amount of time. If your dishwasher is still under guarantee, you may also be entitled to a free call out as well as a free repair.

Popular Dishwasher Model Repairs

Bosch dishwasher repair	0344 892 8979	Book your visit from Bosch
Miele dishwasher repair	0330 160 6600	Book your visit from Miele
Neff dishwasher repair	0344 892 8989	Book your visit from Neff
AEG dishwasher repair	03445 610 643	Book your visit from AEG
Siemens dishwasher repair	0344 892 8999	Book your visit from Siemens
Hotpoint dishwasher repair	0344 822 4224	Book your visit from Hotpoint

If your dishwasher isn't one of these popular brands listed above, there are plenty of other ways to finding a local dishwasher repairman. You can ask around to family and freinds, you can search online, or in local newspapers, or look in the local press.

Dishwasher Repair Costs

To help you in your decision about whether to repair or replace we have provided guideline of approximately how much your repairs will cost.

Dishwasher Repair	Average Cost
Supply and Fit New Pump	£80 – £120
Supply and Fit New Heating Element	£95 – £160
Supply and Fit New Motor	£150 – £220.

We understand that repairing a dishwasher can be a financial strain on your already tight budget. A dishwasher is an essential household appliance and it will be challenging to manage without one. If you can't wait until payday to make the repair, click here to apply for affordable credit with Cashfloat, a [leading direct lender](#) in the UK.

Decided to Replace your Dishwasher?

Any dishwasher that is over eight years of age is probably not worth repairing. Not only will it be difficult to get someone to do the repair and obtain the necessary parts, but it will never be as efficient or economical to run as a new model. If the dishwasher is still under warranty, then you have no problem. The repairs can be done under the contract and should cost you nothing unless there are any exclusion clauses.

Depending on the size of the appliance you can buy a new dishwasher from £160 for a 12 place setting model. A larger model can cost up to £600. Models are available with very economical running costs, which vary in prices. The price of a new machine depends on several criteria, including water consumption, noise levels and the energy rating.

If you decide to replace your dishwasher make sure you consider all the relevant features such as the water consumption, energy rating and running costs. You can hand over the tedious task of washing dishes to a more efficient dishwasher, and you won't need to spend your precious time standing at the kitchen sink doing the job by hand.


Cooker Repairs that Can Save You Money



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

7 | Cooker Repairs

 CashFloat

Did your cooker just break down? Not sure what to do next? Explore easy DIY cooker repairs with Cashfloat, and find out when it's more worthwhile to replace your cooker.

Cooker repairs

All families need the basic facilities to cook, so it's essential to have a reliable and fully working cooker. Of course, if your cooker breaks down then you can always fall back on the microwave, but if you want to enjoy healthy and nutritious meals, you will need to fix your broken cooker as soon as possible. There are multiple types of electric cookers. Some are free standing and include a hob, a grill and a large oven that can be moved easily from one location to another. Others come built into a fitted kitchen with a separate oven, eye level grill and hob.

The more sophisticated the cooker, the more that can go wrong. Having an engineer come out to fix the problem can be costly. So, before you call our a repairman or decide to buy a new appliance, take a look at some of the most common cooker repairs which you may be able to do easily yourself at no cost at all.

Do it yourself cooker repairs

My cooker is not working

If your cooker is not working, the first thing to do is to look at the manual which will have a list of troubleshooting points to go through. If you don't have a book, then the next step is to check for power.

Cookers are connected directly to the power and do not have a plug, so all you can do is check the fuse box to make sure that the power has not tripped out. If everything looks fine, then you can check the timer.

Most modern ovens have a timer programme, and if you have selected this, even by accident, the cooker will not work until the designated time set. You cannot manually turn on a cooker if the timer switch is activated, so just turn this setting off and start cooking.

Top oven and grill not working

Some cooker models have a separate top and bottom oven, often with a grill feature in the top oven. If this is not working and you have eliminated the timer function as a problem, check the temperature setting. There are usually two knobs to control settings:

1. The selector which chooses the grill feature.
2. The thermostat which controls the temperature.

A grill may only start to work after a minimum temperature has been set.

Many top oven grills have a built-in safety feature which means that they will not function unless you open the oven door. Some appliances have a special plate that is fitted over the top of the door when the grill is in use. This plate prevents damage to cooker knobs. Make sure that the door is open sufficiently wide, and the grill should then work normally.

The element in the grill should automatically turn up and down when it reaches the required temperature. It can take a while to get to the maximum temperature. If there is no sign of heat, then it may be time to call an engineer. Electrical appliances like cookers carry a high voltage, and you shouldn't take any risks. So, if in doubt, always call for an expert.

Feeling the draught?

If you can feel a flow of air coming from your cooker in the vicinity of the control panel, this is quite normal. Modern appliances incorporate a cooling fan designed to get rid of the built up hot air. This may continue to run even after you switch the cooker off.

Noisy cooking appliances

Modern cooker appliances usually have a fan in the oven. The fan can cause unexpected noises, even when the cooker is operating normally. Check that the shelves are in the correct position and that cooking trays or pots are not touching the rear of the oven where the fan is situated. You may need to move around the shelves around depending on the type of cooking trays used.

You can also check that the fan cover is correctly fitted and has not come loose. If the cover is too close to the fan, it can cause it to catch and become noisy. If a cooking tray has pushed the cover too close to the fan, you can easily rectify this. Any other noises that occur in your cooker may indicate a more complex problem and you should consult an engineer.

Incorrect cooking temperatures in the oven

You may be experiencing temperatures in the oven that are too hot or too cold. If so, there are some simple adjustments that you can make to correct the problem.

Remember that most thermostats are not exact. Oven heats can vary up to 10% from the temperature that you selected, and this may depend on the manufacturer brand. If you need to know the exact heat in the oven, then you can buy an oven thermometer. This will allow you to calculate the overall average temperature of a cooking cycle.

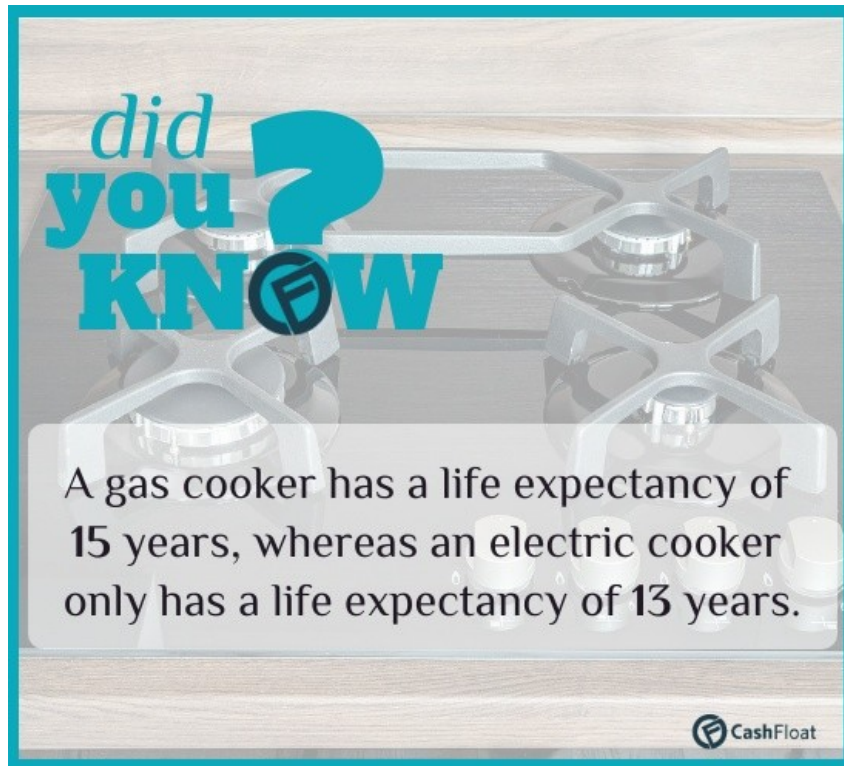
Using large oven trays may also affect the temperature as these restrict air flow in the oven. This can result in hot or cold spots within the oven. With a fan oven, the cooking temperatures should be even throughout, but with an electric oven, the hottest area will be at the top. Don't overload the oven as this will prevent air from circulating properly. An oven that is only hot at the top or the bottom could have faulty elements, and an engineer will need to replace them.

Some more simple problems with electric cookers

A sticking oven door may signal an unlevel cooker. Check with a spirit level and adjust the feet so that the cooker balances correctly.

If the oven and grill indicator lights do not work, there is probably a faulty bulb which you may just need to replace. The same applies to an oven light. The cooker manual will provide instructions on how to complete this simple job.

It's not wise to attempt DIY repairs to a broken cooker even though there are some tutorials on the Internet. Always remember that an electric shock can kill so if in doubt call out an expert to fix a faulty electric cooker.



How much will it cost to repair an electric cooker?

This question is not a simple one as it will depend on what the fault is. If you have gone through the checklist of simple faults, and your broken cooker is still not working correctly, it's time to ring for an engineer. It is always worthwhile obtaining more than one quotation for appliance repairs. Some businesses will offer a fixed price and others offer a quote depending on the make and age of the broken cooker. A great way to find a reliable repairman is to use [Which Trusted Traders](#).

The cost of supplying and fitting a new thermostat to a fan oven ranges from £70 to £90, and it takes approximately one hour. For a new element in a fan oven, you can expect to pay around £85. Check whether the quotation you receive includes labour costs and warranty. If you are on a tight budget and need some financial help to pay for the repair, you can click here to apply for an [affordable payday loan](#) from Cashfloat.

One other factor to consider when choosing an engineer is whether an independent technician will be able to make the repair needed. Some manufacturers only give out the necessary technical information to their specially chosen repair companies.

Finding cooker repairs near me

You will want to find a local engineer, because if you are not happy with the repair, the engineer will be able to return to your house easily. You can find someone local by searching on the internet. Alternatively you can look in local newspapers, where engineers often advertise. You can also ask around to family and friends that live near by. Perhaps they can recommend a reliable repairman that they have used in the past.

What is the life expectancy of cookers?

The life expectancy of cookers depends on the type of fuel that powers it. Electric cookers generally last a shorter amount of time, approximately 13 years, as heating elements break down over the years. On the other hand, gas cookers are more durable as the ignition is simpler and easier on parts. Gas cookers often last approximately 15 Years.

In this table below we show you the chance of your cooker needing repair after...

Type	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Hob repairs	8%	10%	12%
Freestanding electric cooker repairs	25%	31%	35%
Range master cooker repairs	29%	37%	42%
Built in ovens – gas cooker repairs	17%	23%	26%

Is it worth fixing an old cooker?

Is it worth spending a relatively large sum of money on repairing an older cooking appliance or is it best to buy a new one? Modern appliances are more environmentally friendly and more energy efficient. Therefore, if the cooker is over ten years old it is usually best to go for a replacement.

You will save on energy bills and have a new appliance that is safer and more efficient to use. Look at the pros and cons of a freestanding oven against a built in model. Also, make a decision about whether you need the expensive extras like self-cleaning and complex timers.

You can purchase a new free standing electric cooker from as little as £350. If you want a ceramic hob, it costs a bit more, and if you need a dual fuel model i.e. gas hob and electric oven, it will also cost more.

Shop around for a cooker

Even if you have a broken cooker and you feel desperate, you shouldn't just buy the first appliance that you see. There is a huge choice of cookers even for those families who are on a budget. If you use your cooker a lot, then you may want a double oven. Or, a cheaper combined oven and grill may suit your needs.

Choose a reputable supplier and ensure that the new cooker has a [good guarantee period](#). Buying local may be easier than going to a large outlet out of town and a local supplier will be on hand should something go wrong in the immediate future.

Energy efficient cookers

All electrical appliances are ranked for energy efficiency. Even though you may feel the expense of buying a new cooker, you know that it will operate more efficiently than your old appliance.

It is easy to find a [cooker buying guide](#) online, and this will show you how much a new cooker costs to run per year. Energy efficiency ratings start at 'G' which is the least efficient and go up to 'A' which is the most efficient.

Choosing the best possible energy efficient cooker will help to cut electricity bills. Newer energy efficient appliances can make a huge difference to your monthly expenses, and sometimes even saving you taking a [short term loan](#). Plus, you also do your bit for the planet, and help reduce your carbon footprint.

Central Heating & Boiler Repairs that YOU Can Fix!



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

8

Central Heating
Repairs

CashFloat

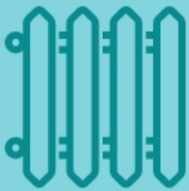
Is your radiator not warming up? Is your shower just not getting hot? Discover easy DIY boiler repairs that you can do yourself and find out when to call a repairman.

If you live in the UK, you will need to keep your house warm during our especially cold winters. Most houses have some form of central heating. There are different types of boilers which can lead to various kinds of problems. Some of these are complex to resolve while others can get [fixed easily with a simple solution](#).

Below are some easy DIY central heating and boiler repairs that you can do yourself, which can save you taking a [payday loan online](#) to pay for an engineer to make the repairs.

Do it yourself central heating and boiler repairs

Gas or electric warm air heater not working?



GIVE IT A TRY!

If your heater won't turn on, often it's a problem that you can fix yourself.

No hot air or not enough hot air coming out? Here are some common causes for this issue and some easy fixes.

Is there a gas/ electricity supply?

If the gas supply is turned on and you are not getting any gas coming into the appliance, there are a number of things that could be wrong. Households that have a pay-as-you-go meter for gas should ensure that there is sufficient credit to allow the supply to work. If you have credit but no gas, check for error messages on the meter and then contact the energy supplier.

The same checks apply to the electricity supply. If you have a payment meter, you'll need to ensure that there is sufficient credit so the appliance can work properly.

Is the heater turned on?

If there is a timer switch on the heater, then check that you haven't altered it by accident. A timer switch can also go haywire when we change the clocks for daylight savings in the autumn and spring. If necessary, reset the date and time on the programme clock.

Reset room thermostats and check the pilot light

If your warm air heater is not working, then you may simply need to turn up the room thermostat. Make sure you have set the temperature high enough for the heater to go on. If you have set all the switches and thermostats correctly, and no fault codes are flashing on the display, the problem could be more complicated. This would be the right time to call for an engineer.

Gas warm air heaters

Gas warm air heaters should always display a pilot light. If this is off, you can get information about how to reignite it from the user manual.

Check the vents are open

If you are not getting sufficient heat from a warm air heater, then check that the vents in each warm air appliance are open. The vents control the flow of warm air and may need to be opened fully to get the right amount of heat to the room.

Clean the filter

Warm air heaters have a filter to stop dust and debris from building up and being blown around the home. Some appliances have a self-cleaning filter, but others need regular maintenance. The user instructions will show you how to perform this simple task.

If you have completed all these simple checks, and the heating is still performing poorly, then ring a reputable engineer who will be able to diagnose the real issue.

Central heating radiators causing you problems?



BEWARE!

If your radiator isn't working this can be an easy fix. But, be careful not to attempt a repair that is dangerous.

Check each of the options below to see if you can fix the problem yourself before calling the repairman.

My radiator is leaking

A number of factors can cause leaking radiators. If you can get at the radiator valves, turn them off. Alternatively, turn off the water at the mains tap and then call an engineer to sort out the problem. However, until the system has completely drained, the leaks will continue. So, in the meantime, use buckets or other containers to stop the mess.

No heating from downstairs radiators

Most problems with radiators are due to a buildup of air in the system. If the radiators are working upstairs but not downstairs, then there might be some air trapped in the downstairs units. You can easily bleed the air out using a special key that the supplier gave you when they installed the system. Refer to the user manual for help, or search for an online video of how to perform this simple task.

When you have released the air in the radiators, the water fills back up to take its place, and the radiator will heat up within just a short amount of time.

My radiators are noisy /cold

Noise in radiators is usually due to air in the system. Bleed the radiators (see above) and then make sure that the valves are open fully and not partially shut. Doing so should eliminate any noise, but if it persists, call out an engineer to check the system.

If a radiator has a cold spot, has fully open valves and has been bled, there may be a blockage problem and an engineer will be able to fix it.

No radiators working at all

If none of the radiators work and you have done the simple checks for switches, thermostats, valves, etc., then the system could have a major problem. It is best to ring for assistance from your usual repair company or engineer.

Back boiler not working properly?



DO SOME DETECTIVE WORK!

Locating the problem will help you decide whether you can make the repair or you have to call the repairman.

A back boiler is a form of central heating, fitted behind a fireplace or stove. It provides both heating and hot water. Although not as common as it used to be, there are some houses which still use a back boiler. Here are some tips that will help you to identify if the fault is something simple or not, and if you'll you need to call an engineer.

No hot water from the back boiler

If you are not getting hot water from your back boiler, then there are two things you should check before calling for an engineer:

1. Check the timer or programme control

A back boiler that is not providing hot water does not always need an engineer to fix it. The problem could be as simple as a timer or programme control that has not been correctly switched on — then you just have to reset it. As long as you are sure that there is an electrical supply to the switch you can check for a number of other things.

2. Check for unusual symbols on the display

Look for any symbols on the display that are not usually there and consult the user manual if there is something different showing. The timer could have an override feature. Or, it could be set at the wrong time if BST or GMT has recently changed. It can simply be a matter of resetting the time and date.

All back boilers have a control for the temperature – a thermostat. Sometimes, this is turned off, causing a problem with the hot water. If all the switches are set to ‘on’, then try turning on a hot water tap to see if there is a constant water supply. If the water mains is off, then the boiler will not function. Check that all stop taps are fully open. Having made sure that all controls are switched on and that the water supply is constant, if you are still not getting hot water then the best option is to call an engineer.

The heating is not working correctly

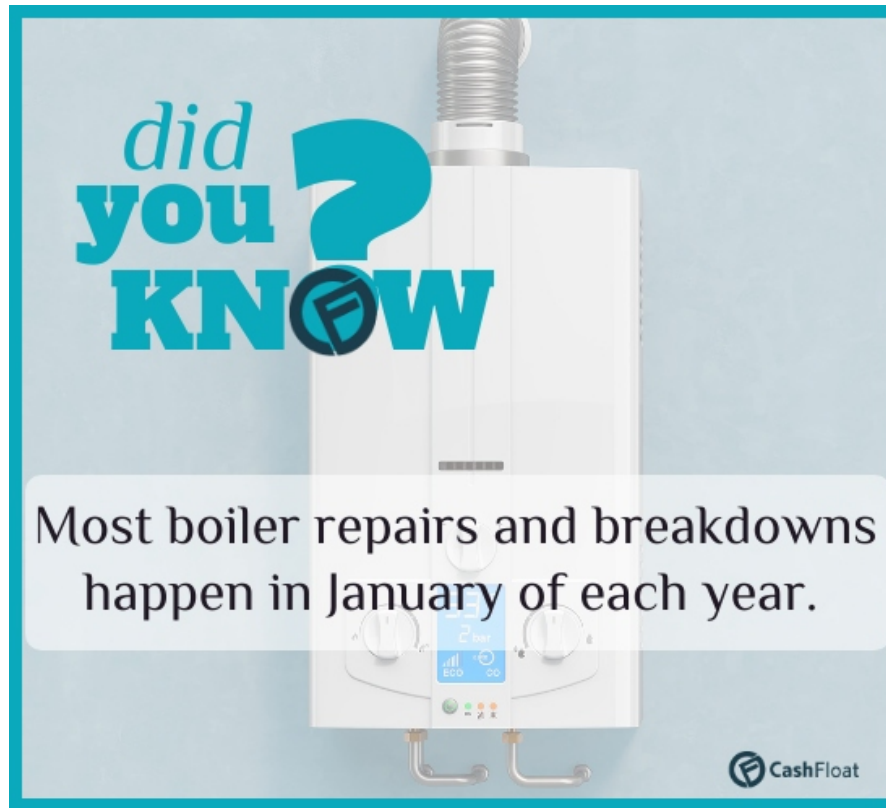
Apply the same checks to the timer/programme controller as those for no hot water. If these are all properly set, try turning up the room thermostat. If all the boiler switches are turned on, then this could be a bigger problem, and you should call out an expert.

Combination and conventional boiler repairs

Check all switches and thermostats

If you are not getting hot water, heating or any output from a combination/conventional boiler then you should go through the check previously listed for back boilers. If the gas or electric supply is on, there is a constant water supply, and all switches and thermostats are on, then check the manual or guide that you received when you got the boiler installed.

Once you have eliminated potential problems, it is time to ring an engineer. Do not attempt to take apart complex equipment like a combination/conventional boiler. Central heating boilers can be extremely dangerous so if in doubt, always call in an expert.



Hiring an engineer to make central heating and boiler repairs

When you have carried out the simple checks listed above, and the central heating still does not work, then it's time to get some expert help. Energy companies which supply and fit central heating usually offer a service and breakdown plan. However, if you do not have one of these plans in place, then the best option is to ring for a quotation from two or more companies for work to fix the system.

Finding boiler repairs near me

Try the newspaper for local companies or choose a national company which may provide a faster service. At the end of the day, once the central heating is fixed, then it may be worthwhile taking out a service plan so that if the same thing happens in the future, your heating system will be fully covered.

Find your local boiler repair company

Boiler repair London	Just Boilers	0202 7323 2999
Boiler repair Glasgow	Glasgow boiler repairs	0141 766 1511
Boiler repair Worcester	Worcester – Bosch	0330 162 2296
Boiler repair Manchester	Boiler repair Manchester	0161 220 3712
Boiler repair Birmingham	Premier heating & plumbing	0121 728 9144

Boiler repair costs

Boiler repairs can be very expensive. The cost of a repair can vary depending on the boiler type and on the extent of the fault or damage. You can expect to pay anything from £150 for a minor repair such as a replacement fan, printed circuit board or gas valve, or closer to £400 for more serious work, such as a replacing a heat exchanger. If you don't have the financial means to pay for the repair and you don't have an emergency fund either, then you may need to borrow money. Try friends or family first, but if you do need a [small loan](#) make sure you do your research to see which lender is right for you.

Should I replace my boiler?

Replacing a boiler can cost anything between £600 and £2,000. If your boiler just needs a simple repair and is not old, replacing your boiler is definitely not the option you should consider. However, if your boiler is old, you may be eligible for a [government grant](#) to replace you boiler. So check today whether you are entitled to a FREE boiler.


Everything You Need to Know About Electric Heaters



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

9 | All You Need To Know About Electric Heaters

 CashFloat

Got a favourite electric heater? Find out how to keep your trusty heater working well. In this article Cashfloat explores everything you need to know about electric heaters in 2020.

Living in the UK makes reliable heating essential. Most houses now have central heating, but some families still rely on electric heaters. An electric heater is also good for backup heating. There are some common faults which can cause electric heaters to stop working. You can check to see if you can fix your heater before you decide to ring the repairman or replace the fire. However, it is important to understand that you should never try to repair or take apart any electrical appliance unless it has been switched off and unplugged from the mains.

Types of Electric Heaters

Cashfloat, a leading [payday loans lender](#) in the UK, discusses the three main types of electric heaters; radiant heaters which have bars, fan heaters and convector heaters which let out hot air. Some appliances combine the two types; radiant and convector. In these models, there will be radiant bars which are in front of a reflector. These push the heat into the room and the convector at the top of the appliance also distributes hot air. Convectors are better as background heating while radiant bars give direct heat. The fan heater has a motor which pushes out hot air to a wider area of the room.

If your heater has broken and you need some financial help to repair or replace, you can apply with Cashfloat, the leading unsecured credit platform in the UK.

Common Reasons for Broken Electric Heaters

One of the most common problems with all types of electric heating is the mains lead. If this is worn or has been damaged by heat, the outer casing may become cracked and this can not only cause problems but can be very dangerous.

Experts advise that a worn power cable should always be replaced and not repaired with tape. The lead is usually attached to the heater at the rear, and it is a simple job to remove the outer cover and release the clamp that holds the lead. Unscrew the terminals and put the new lead in place. Always ensure that the lead is the correct power rating. If in doubt call an electrician.

Radiant Heaters

Traditional bars and silicon glass tubes

You can buy radiant heaters with either regular pencil bars or silicon glass tubes. The pencil bars consist of an element that has closely wound wires running through the bar. Most of these elements have caps at each end where the terminals are fitted.

An older type fire will have radiant bars, but most modern appliances now have silicon glass tubes. The latest tubes have a more attractive appearance and give out more heat than traditional bars. However, they are more easily damaged and may soon become discoloured with marks and dust. Keeping this type of element clean will help the appliance to work at its best.

At the back of the fire, there is a reflective screen which must be kept clean. To do this, you will need to remove the elements. You should only ever do this when they are cool. Use a clean, soft cloth which will provide protection for the delicate glass tubes. If you leave behind fingerprints, these will become burned into the glass once the fire is switched on. This can impair the performance of the fire.

Burnt out terminals

When the terminals at each end of the radiant bars become worn, they can start to spark. When this happens, it is too late to replace the bars. If the bar is not fitted correctly, arcing can occur i.e. if the bar is too loose. Slightly worn terminals may be treated with emery cloth to smooth out any slight burn or corrosion that has built up. If in doubt always call an electrician or buy a new fire.

Convactor Heaters

Safety rules for convactor heaters

Convactor heaters are an excellent source of background heat. Also, there is very little risk of anything or anyone getting burned because the heat is not direct as it is with radiant fires. However, you should always follow these safety precautions when using convactor heaters.

Don't put convactor heaters in bathrooms or any place where there is condensation or damp. You must never place clothes over the heater to dry as this can lead to the element overheating and failing.

Thermostats and replacement parts for a convactor heater

A convactor heater with a thermostat is the best choice. This type of heater regulates the amount of heat that is distributed and allows the temperature in the room to remain constant. If the thermostat stops working you can buy a new one from the supplier. However, if the heater is very old, it is unlikely that parts will still be available.

A new convactor heater will come with a user manual which will advise you about replacement parts. If the heater is not working, you should first check the power supply, then look to see if the indicator light is on and that the thermostat is set high enough to start the heat.

There is very little that can go wrong with a convactor heater. A fault will usually be with the thermostat which you can replace. The heating element can also fail. New convactor heaters are very cheap to buy so if the element is gone it is usually more cost-effective to buy a new heater which can cost as little as £20.

Fan Heaters

A fan heater has an element inside and a fan that distributes the hot air into the room. If the fan motor is not running at the correct speed, it can cause overheating. This is the main reason why a fan heater might fail.

You can easily remove the casing on a fan heater so that you can clean away any build up of dust on the motor. Just unscrew the outer casing and then use a clean, dry paint brush to clean the fan, motor and internal switches. Apply a tiny drop of very light oil to the bearings, and this will help to keep all parts moving.

Energy Efficient Electric/Fire Heaters

Using an electric fire as a primary source of heat is not the most cost-effective and energy efficient approach. But, in small areas, these kinds of heaters can be effective. Whether you choose a radiant fire, a convector heater or a fan heater, the running costs are similar. A 2Kw output will cost around 36p per hour to run. A lower output will cost less.

As a source of backup heat, these appliances can be very useful. With the reduced costs of new heaters, it is rarely worth spending money on a repair if the heater stops working.



“ Using an electric heater as a primary source of heating is not cost - effective. ”

Replacing your Electric Heaters

You can buy a brand new two bar radiant fire for about £29. A convector heater with thermostat costs as little as £19.99. Of course, some more expensive models go up to £300. But for a small portable device, you do not have to pay out much money. Portable heaters are a better buy than fixed models. You can move them around to any room. If you do not use all the rooms in your home, this is going to be an economical way to heat one room.

Remember that fan heaters need an air flow to be effective. For safety reasons never place them against a wall or other obstruction. You can buy fan heaters with a climate control switch, and in the summer you can set them to cold air to cool the room off.

Conclusion

When used correctly an electric fire or heater can be very useful for boosting the heat in one room. The latest models rarely go wrong as long as you keep them clean and check the cables for wear and tear. Before you buy, check the appliance energy rating to ensure that the model is as economical as possible.

Blown Fuse Solutions for Old and New Fuse Boxes



Has your fuse box just blown again? Learn some simple DIY blown fuse solutions with Cashfloat to get your electricity back on and find out how to prevent it from happening again.

Story highlights:

- *Find blown fuse solutions for all types of fuse boxes.*
- *Why did your fuse blow? Find out why, and how to prevent it from happening again*
- *Learn when it's time to call the electrician.*

If the electricity supply to your home fails, it can be disruptive and annoying, and you'll want blown fuse solutions asap. Unless you have been notified that there is going to be a power cut, don't assume that everyone is in the same boat. A quick look outside will tell you whether this is a widespread problem or one that is just affecting your home. Sometimes the loss of electricity is a simple problem and may not be a full-scale emergency. This article takes a look at the many reasons why the power to your home may have failed, and how to tackle the problems.

It's always annoying when the lights suddenly go out. Fumbling around in the dark with a torch trying to discover what the problem is can be complicated. So, we've decided to help! All you need to do is answer these simple questions, and we'll figure out the problem for you and find you blown fuse solutions. We'll then give you a quick and easy way to fix it – and you don't need to be a qualified electrician to do this!

Circuit Breaker Busting


Before you call out the electrician, there are many blown fuse solutions that can get your electricity back on. Read the list below to get your electricity working again.

Solution 1: Have you paid your electricity bills?

As simple as it may sound, unless you have paid your electricity bill you could have had the supply cut off. An energy provider should have notified you about the imminent disconnection. If you pay by direct debit make sure that there were sufficient funds in your bank for the latest payment. And, check back in your records for the receipt of the last bill.

Pre-payment meters in the home

If you pay for your electricity supply using a prepayment meter, make sure that you have credit. Topping up a meter using a prepayment card should start the supply back on. If this does not work the meter could be faulty. In this case, contact your energy supplier immediately.



Using a prepayment meter?
Make sure you have credit

CashFloat

Settling up with the provider

If you have experienced difficulties with paying your electricity bill, most providers will come to some agreement. They may allow you to repay the outstanding amount in instalments. Contact the Citizens Advice Bureau for help with this kind of problem. In some situations, an emergency payday loan might help get your electricity back up and working.

Solution 2: Check the fuse box

If the power supply failed as you switched on a light or connected a home appliance, it is possible that a fuse has tripped out in the fuse box. This problem can also occur when there is a fluctuation in the power supply i.e. a power surge. Modern electricity circuits are built to trip out the power to prevent damage to appliances and danger to life.

Check the fuse box to see if all the switches are pointing upwards. If one is down, simply put it back to the correct position. But, if this does not work, you may need to reset the main switch. If you can't push it back up, there is a problem with the switch. Unplug the appliance that caused the trip out and try again. If it still does not work, contact your energy supplier.



One of the fuses pointing down?

Simply push it upwards



Never try to interfere with fuse boxes as this could endanger your life, or at the very least damage the whole power supply. Contact an electrician as soon as possible to fix your fuse box. While your home has no electricity supply take extra care. Use torches and not candles to reduce the risk of fire. Make sure that all appliances that were on when the power failed are now turned off.

What should you do if you are not sure about how to make the repair?

Before any attempt to isolate the problem, you must be aware that electricity is dangerous and if in doubt, it is better to call a qualified electrician to repair the problem.

Old Fashioned Fuse Boxes

Most new homes have modern fuse boxes with fuses that can be repaired by just flicking up a switch. Older homes may still have an old-fashioned fuse box. If a fuse is blown, it can be repaired.

The cause of blown fuses can be something as simple as using an extension lead with multiple adaptors. Unless it is necessary, avoid using extension points with multiple sockets. These can quickly overheat and be dangerous as well as being the cause of a blown fuse.



Repairing a blown fuse?

Beware of electricity fires



Changing the blown fuse in an old fusebox

Step 1: Turn off your appliances

First turn off all appliances in the home including any central heating boiler that works with electricity for the pump. Once everything is turned off, you can begin the process of finding the blown fuse solutions.

Step 2: Find the broken fuse

The next step is to turn off the electricity to the fuse box using the mains switch. You will need a flashlight to see. Then open or take off the cover of the box. Take out each fuse in turn to see which one has blown. This will be apparent by the break in the fuse wire that runs across the fuse.

Step 3: Buy a replacement fuse

Once you have found the blown fuse solutions, you can replace the wire. To do this, you will first need to establish the correct amp rating of the wire. Use the table below to decide which fuse you need.

Size of Fuse Wire	Number of Amps	Usage
Small fuse wire	5 or 6 amps	Used for lighting
Medium fuse wire	15 amp	Used for immersion heaters
Large fuse wire	30 amp	Used for larger appliances like cookers

Step 4: Replace the fuse wire

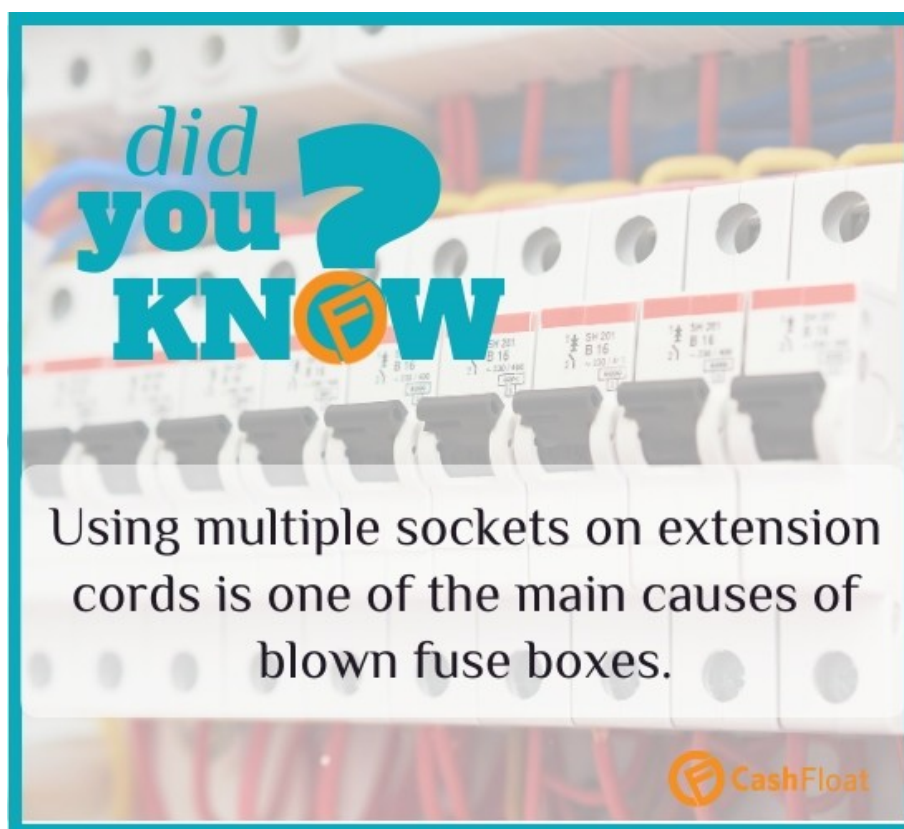
Once you have bought the correct fuse wire, it's a simple task to unscrew the terminals and remove the broken fuse wire. The replacement piece of fuse wire should be long enough to go across the two terminals and wrap around them. After that tighten the screw terminals back into place and replace the fuse. Close the fuse box cover and switch the mains back on.

Fuse Boxes With Cartridges

Fuse boxes which use cartridges is even simpler to repair. Switch off the box at the main switch and then test the cartridges using a special tester to identify the problematic fuse. Then just buy a replacement cartridge of the correct amp rating and put it into place. Turn the mains switch back on.

Modern circuit breaker fuse boxes

All new homes are now fitted with modern circuit breaker fuse boxes. It will be clear which fuse has tripped because the switch will be down, not up. Turn off appliances connected to the circuit and then put the switch into the up position. Never plug in a damaged electrical appliance as this will trip the fuse. You can prevent further problems by not using multiple sockets on extensions.



Causes of fuse box failures

Any fuse that keeps blowing or tripping out is a proof that there is something wrong. This may be a faulty appliance or a problem with the home wiring. There are a limited number of reasons why this could happen. It is a simple task to work out what is going wrong. However, before any attempt to isolate the problem, you must be aware that electricity is dangerous. If in doubt it is better to call a qualified electrician.

Modern fuse boxes are designed so that any upsurge or reduction of current will cause the power supply to be cut off. This is a safety feature that can prevent an appliance from exploding, becoming 'live' and from catching fire.

A faulty appliance or faulty circuit

If the problem of a tripping out fuse box is recent, then you may have purchased a faulty appliance. Also, using the correctly rated light bulbs for table lamps and wall lights is essential. Bulbs that are too powerful can cause the fuse to trip out.

Identifying the source of the problem

If the same fuse goes every time, you can eliminate other circuits and identify in which room the problem lies. Do not touch any electrical appliance unless it is not plugged in. Turn off all circuits if you are unsure which fitting is faulty.

If you are unable to identify the circuit, the next step is to eliminate each one at a time. Switch everything off and plug each one back in one at a time.

Circuit overloading

Overloading is a common cause of fuse box problems. Always try to avoid using multiple adaptors. Do not overload the circuit by using several large appliances at once. i.e. washing machine, dishwasher and oven. This can overload the electrical circuit. Similarly, do not overload individual sockets as this can cause overheating and can be dangerous.

A faulty appliance causing problems

Once you have identified that one of your appliances is faulty, you just need to find out what is wrong with it. There are some possibilities including damp wires or dust in the fittings. Always check with a reputable engineer to sort out the problem. Trying to fix a faulty appliance can be very dangerous.

Broken or damaged cables

Faulty or damaged cables or wiring may cause a problem with fuses. Any break in the wire may cause a short which will trip the fuse. Finally, if all of these are fine and the fuse box is continuing to cause problems. It may be a fault with the box itself. If this is the case do not try to fix it but call out a fully trained professional.

Calling In A Professional

These are just a few of the common problems that can cause a fuse box to malfunction. However, the main point to remember is that electricity is very dangerous. Do not try to mess about with the fuse box yourself. A qualified engineer will be able to easily locate the problem and advise you about the way forward.

Qualified electricians charge either by the hour, by half a day or by the day. Prices range from £45 per hour in London to £20 per hour in other areas. This equates to £350 per day or £140 per day.

Most problems are caused by simple faults. If the wiring in your home is very old, you may need to replace it. We all take electricity for granted, and when something goes wrong it is disruptive. However, an expert will be able to help you solve all your fuse box problems and get your home electricity supply back to normal.

Conclusion – Blown Fuse Solutions

Knowing how the wiring of your house works can really help you to save money on your blown fuse repairs. It can also save you lots of hassle calling out someone to do the job. You should try to avoid taking an [instant loan](#) to make repairs in your house when they can be done yourself. If you are not sure how to fix something yourself, you can always google blown fuse solutions. There are lots of information on the web available to help you with DIY repairs. If you do go the DIY route make sure what you are doing is completely safe.

Shower Repairs - What You Need To Know Before You Call the Repairman



What could be worse than waking up and having no hot water for your morning shower? **Learn how to do simple shower repairs with Cashfloat to get your shower back up and running.**

Story highlights:

- *Before attempting any shower repairs, make sure to switch off the electricity from the mains.*
- *Find out when your shower can be dangerous to repair yourself.*

We all hate it when we jump into the shower and it is cold. Brrrr. Or, you might get an unreliable temperature and have to jump in and out of the hot/cold water. Maybe there is no water at all. All of these common shower problems are very frustrating.

There are some common faults with electric showers. This article will point out a few of the most common shower repairs that you can diagnose and do yourself before you resort to ringing up a repair man. But, don't risk your life for the sake of saving money. Before trying to sort out a problem with your electric shower, remember that electricity alone is very dangerous and when combined with water, it's lethal. When in doubt always call in an experienced electrician.

Electric Showers – How Do They Work?

Mixer Showers

The simplest form of shower is a mixer shower. These work by combining both hot and cold water to form warm water. A basic rubber pipe shaped like a Y is attached to both taps of the bath or sink. You get a stream of warm water for your shower. However, these very simple showers make it difficult to control the actual temperature of the water. If someone else is in the kitchen and turns on a tap, you might experience a sudden rush of either very hot or freezing water.

A more reliable type of mixer shower is plumbed in. These have a built in thermostat which keeps the temperature constant. These showers are much safer and more comfortable. Most of these appliances also have a built in safety cut out so that they do not get too hot. This stops scalding water from burning children, or even adults. Mixer showers are not as efficient as electric showers. They rely on a supply of hot water from the tank. When this is gone, all you will be left with is cold water.

Electric Showers

Put simply; an electric shower works by heating up cold water with electricity. An electric current runs through a heating element. As the cold water runs past the element, it gets heated up.

Electric Shower Repairs



BEWARE!

Water and electricity can be lethal.
Always switch off the electricity from the mains before attempting repair



There are some small problems with electric showers that you can identify yourself. This will help you to decide whether or not you need the assistance of a repairman.

Tepid water when showering

Lukewarm water in a shower is very common with electric showers. It can be due to a lack of power getting through to the micro switch. This can happen when the switch is burned out or otherwise faulty. Or, a failing heating element will also mean that your water is not heating up like it should. A switch is not expensive to replace, but an element will cost more.

Replacing a pull cord switch costs around £50. A new shower circuit can cost between £75 and £160 depending on where you live. London prices are higher than those in other parts of the UK.

Unreliable temperature when showering

If the water is constantly going from boiling hot to cold and back again, there could be a problem with the water flow. In this instance, you can check that the mains valve is fully open. Also, check the cut-off tap to the appliance. If you find a problem with either of these taps, call in a plumber. Alternatively, ring an electrician to check the shower.

No hot water at all

If you are only getting cold water from the shower, the safety cut out could be operating. When a shower starts to overheat this safety device stops the power so that no one gets burnt. If this is happening often, you will need to get an electrician to replace the cut-out feature. It can cost about £100. It might be worth it to take a short term loan online to cover the expense in an emergency if you don't have money and your salary is due shortly.


Water leaking from the bottom of the shower unit

A build up of pressure can cause water to leak from the bottom of the shower unit. If the shower hose is blocked, it can cause the pressure. Showers incorporate a pressure relief device. When the pressure in the hot water tank builds up too high, it activates the pressure relief device. To help solve this problem, you can clear the blockage.

No water at all

If you are getting no water at all or it stops when you are showering the problem might be the solenoid valve. This valve is operated by a coil. When the coil breaks, the valve will not open and allow water into the shower. You can replace the coil to solve this issue.

More Serious Problems With Electric Showers



STOP!

If you have any electrical faults, switch off your shower and don't use it

CashFloat

Like all appliances, an electric shower may exhibit problems that are potentially dangerous. You need to ensure that you are keeping to electrical safety guidelines so in these cases, you should stop using the shower and immediately call in an expert.

Trip switch keeps turning off the shower

If the electricity keeps tripping out every time you turn on the shower control it may be because water is coming into contact with the wiring. This is dangerous, and you should call an electrician.

A smell of burning

If you smell burning when you turn on the shower, this is another indication of a wiring problem. Do not use the shower until you fix this issue.

Shower will not turn on

If you know that there is power going to the shower appliance, but it will not turn on, this also points to an electrical fault. The probability is that there is not sufficient contact between the electrical points.

Shower is coming loose of the wall

This is extremely dangerous as there is a powerful electrical current running through the appliance. A loose shower fitting could also result in disruption of the water supply. Always make sure that the shower is properly connected. If there are problems you can try to fix it yourself using a video tutorial. But, it would be better to call in an experienced plumber. If you do attempt to fix it, make sure that you disconnect the electricity at the mains.

Other Problems with Showers



GIVE IT A TRY

External and appearance issues can usually be fixed easily yourself

Other problems with electric showers are not dangerous but can be annoying. These problems are more likely to be safe for you to fix yourself, however you need to make sure that you disconnect the electricity if you are dealing with anything that can potentially be dangerous.

A leaking inlet pipe

A leaking inlet pipe can also cause loss of water pressure. You will need to replace the plastic connectors or fit a new water pipe. Many of the simple problems associated with electric showers are due to faulty plumbing. Check that your shower is correctly installed before you use it.

Sticking shower handles or taps

If you live in a hard water area, then you may experience a build-up of lime scale or mineral on the pressure handle or taps. You can get rid of this using a simple descaling product like Cillit Bang. Just apply the product to the affected area and let it soak in. Then remove the limescale with a brush or cloth.

If you don't remove the limescale, it can cause the tap or valve to break when you try to turn it. A replacement tap can cost around £60.

Poor water pressure

Unfortunately, there is no simple shower repairs that you can do to fix low water pressure. Low pressure can lead to lukewarm water. An electric shower requires a minimum pressure to operate successfully. The only way to fix this problem is to find a better pressure source. A plumber will be able to advise you about the best place to situate the shower so that the pressure is high enough to provide better performance.

FAQs about Cleaning Showers

Cleaning your shower regularly will make your shower last longer and help keep the bacteria out. Here you can get answers to your most frequently asked questions about cleaning your shower.

What is the best way to clean a shower head?

Start by wiping off any dry debris from around the hole with a scrubber. To descale the shower head, mix equal parts of white vinegar and water in a plastic bag. Place the plastic bag around the shower head so that all the holes are immersed in the liquid. Close the bag over the head with a rubber band. Allow the head to soak for a minimum of 20 minutes and then remove the shower head. Rinse the shower and remove any extra debris. Enjoy your clean shower.

How should I clean the shower glass?

The first step is to spray some vinegar on the glass and let it sit for a few minutes. Then create a paste with equal amounts of baking soda and salt and use a damp sponge to rub the paste all over the glass. Leave for a few minutes and rinse thoroughly. To finish, use good quality glass cleaner with a microfibre cloth.

What is the best way to clean grout in a shower?

This is the best tried and tested way of getting rid of the grout in your shower. First you should remove the surface dirt and grime. You can do this with the scorer side of a sponge and fairy liquid. After this step, you should only be left with the mould that's in the grout itself. To remove the mould, use some bleach and an old toothbrush. Pour 2 parts bleach into 1 part water and begin scrubbing with the toothbrush. Once you have covered all areas, leave to sit for 30 minutes. To remove those really black stains, brush with the toothbrush without adding any bleach and rinse thoroughly using plenty of water.

How should I clean the shower drain?

Begin by removing anything which may be blocking the water from going down. Use a wire hanger to remove hair and other small blockages. Once these blockages are clear, pour half a cup of baking soda down the drain and immediately after, pour half a cup of white vinegar. Plug the drain with a rag and leave to rest for a few hours. After this, remove the rag and boil a kettle of water. Pour the boiling water down the drain quickly to flush away the blockage.

Tip: Cleaning your shower regularly, will make it last much longer



Getting Help For Problems With Electric Showers

Having an electric shower is a boon, even if you sometimes have to do occasional shower repairs. A shower uses less water than a full bathtub and [saves on utility bills](#) because it heats up the water as it passes through the element.

Modern showers have an isolation valve. If you experience any problems, you can use this to turn off the water supply. After that, turn off the switch in the fuse box that provides power to the shower. Then call out an emergency plumber.

Unless you are an experienced plumber and electrician, it is better not to mess about with electric showers when they go wrong. Shower repairs can sometimes be expensive, and you may need to take a [£500 loan](#) to finance the repairs. But, your life is worth more than a payday loan, so don't risk doing dangerous repairs. Additionally, keeping your shower clean and regularly checking for the above problems will ensure that you get the best out of this home appliance and minimise the need for shower repairs.

Why you should use Cashfloat?

Looking to borrow an [instant payday loan](#) for shower repairs? Apply with Cashfloat today and get funded within 1 hour of approval. We are a responsible lender that performs credit checks and affordability checks to ensure you can afford to make loan repayments.

Common Air Conditioning Faults & Repairs That You Must Know About



What could be worse than your aircon breaking down on a boiling summers day? Find out with Cashfloat the common air conditioning faults that you can repair, and when it's time to call for an expert.

Story highlights:

- *It costs 3.6p per hour to run an air conditioning unit on cool.*
- *Most air conditioning faults need a qualified engineer to fix them.*

Thanks to the beautiful British weather, we don't often need aircon. But if you do have a unit, the last thing you need on a scorching summer day is for it to be broken.

Learn how to look after your aircon so that it works for you when you need it. Also learn what you can fix yourself if your aircon has broken and how much it will cost to install or replace your units.

Types of Air Conditioning Units

It is true to say that not many people in the UK consider [installing an air conditioning unit](#). But, these appliances can be very handy to control the temperature and humidity in the home. Also, they are quite cheap to run. Furthermore, they can provide background heating at times when you do not want to run the central heating but need something more than a single fire. However, depending on the model, they can be costly to run. Therefore, you need to make sure that you keep an eye on your bills so that you don't end up needing an [online payday loan](#) to pay off your bills.

There are several types of air conditioning units.

Single Unit

A single unit is the easiest to install and the cheapest to buy. Therefore, it's likely that you can afford to buy one of these units with your regular monthly budget. When buying a single aircon unit you can choose either a fixed unit or a portable one that can get moved around. The vent is an air hose which you run outside through a window. But, this has some disadvantages as it can mean leaving your home less secure.

Split unit

A split air conditioning unit is a better choice since it is permanent. The unit consists of two parts; an indoor unit and an outdoor condenser. Most of the models have extra features such as a timer, a night mode and a remote control. Therefore, these air conditioners usually work better. Furthermore, they have a longer lifespan than the single or portable models. However, they cost more to install.

Maintaining an air conditioner unit is not hard. If it is portable, you need to drain away the water that collects in the container in the bottom of the unit. You also need to clean out dust filters to ensure the machine works at its best.

Servicing and Maintaining Air Conditioning Units

Once you have an air conditioning unit, it is essential to perform regular checks to ensure that nothing goes wrong. Most domestic air conditioners only need a service once a year. It is unlikely that you will use it as much as commercial units.

Keeping the filters clean will help to ensure the best performance and help avoid air conditioning faults. Also, blocked filters can lead to water leaks which in turn may damage the fan.

Common Air Conditioning Faults

Refrigeration leaks

A leak in the cooling level will compromise the performance. The refrigeration liquid must be at an adequate level when it is installed. The unit is sealed so you must get a qualified engineer to fix any of these types of leaks. Make sure to get someone who has the necessary qualifications to deal with the job.

Air conditioning faults with the sensor

All air conditioning units have a sensor which measures the air temperature. If this is faulty, you may find that the unit only works part of the time. The sensor is cheap to replace, but this is also a job for an expert.

Poor installation

If the engineer did not install the air conditioning correctly, it might leak because the unit needs the correct air flow to work efficiently. Therefore you need to make sure that an experienced engineer has fitted the air conditioner unit and then there should be no problem.

Component fails in the unit

An air conditioning unit contains many components and consequently, over time there will be wear and tear. Electrical control boxes power the fan and compressor. Air conditioning faults can be caused by a problem with one of these components, and the unit can fail completely.

If you make sure to get the components serviced regularly, it will help to prevent component failure. In addition, the engineer will check for breaks in wiring and all connectors. It is recommended to service your aircon unit once a year to help avoid component failure.

Water leaks underneath the unit

If you suddenly experience a puddle of water beneath the unit, it means that it is not draining adequately. A blocked outlet pipe can cause poor drainage. Blockages happen when there is a build up of sludge or dust in the tube. However, this can be fixed easily. Make a regular check that pipes are clear and this will prevent any internal leaks.

Poor performance

If you think that your aircon unit is not working at its best, it may be that you are not using it in the right way. You need to make sure that you close the doors and windows in the room when you use it. Otherwise, the sensor won't be able to control the air temperature correctly.

Costs of Repairing an Air Conditioning Unit

It is hard to estimate the cost of repairs for an air conditioning unit. Most companies are specialists and will need to know details of the problem before they will give an estimated price. It is best to get estimates from several different places. Some businesses are nationwide while other are local but all of them usually ask you to request a quotation either by phone or on a website.

Choose a business that employs engineers with the correct qualifications and consequently, one that provides a warranty for the completed work. Unlike other home appliances, only fully qualified engineers should fix air conditioning units. This is because these are highly sensitive units that will give many years of service if you [maintain your air conditioner](#) properly and regularly.

If you are on a tight budget, and you can't afford to make the repair, you can click here to apply for an affordable payday loan with Cashfloat, a trustworthy lender.

Costs of Replacing an Air Conditioning Unit

If you need to replace your air conditioning unit, you have a big selection of units to choose from. There is a lot of new technology out there and therefore, the latest inverter units cost less to run. However, they are more expensive to buy and you might need a [small personal loan](#) to help you pay for it.

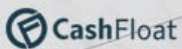
For a unit in one room, you can expect to pay from around £800 for the most economical running model. It is far better to choose a properly fitted air conditioning unit instead of a portable one which may be cheaper but is not as efficient. Furthermore, running costs are about 3.6 pence per hour for cooling and a little higher for heating.

Do Led Lights Really Save Money?

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

13 | Do LED Lights Really Save Money?



Each year you can save £5 per bulb by switching to LED lighting. But is it **worthwhile**? If you are nervous about making the switch, read on for a full review. It could save you money and even a payday loan!

Story highlights:

- *LED lighting is cheaper to run than traditional lights.*
- *With the latest LED lighting systems, you don't need to change your fittings.*
- *Learn how to diagnose and fix lighting problems yourself.*

Most people are aware that changing over to [LED lights makes it cheaper](#) to light up the home. However, in some cases, it has been reported that the cost of changing to LED is too high and this may have put off some people from making the change.

LED bulbs use only a fraction of the electricity consumed compared to traditional incandescent bulbs. They are cheaper to run than fluorescent lighting. Also, they can last for up to fifty times longer. Most run for years with no faults or problems occurring. If you were using [online personal loans](#) to cover your utility bills, you may no longer need them...

Changing the light bulbs in your home from the old type to the new ones can knock off about £5 per year per bulb. This is a substantial saving and is worth considering if you can afford to lay out the initial costs.

LED Lighting: Why Not Change?

Some people have been put off changing to the new bulbs. The first generation of energy saving bulbs took time to light up properly and gave off a dull cold light that made any room look uninviting. The [new generation of LED lights](#) is now as good if not better than the traditional types. LED lighting comes in warm white hues which give off a lovely glow and makes a room look comfortable and welcoming.

Additionally, the latest bulbs are made in retrofit styles. It does not matter if you have older style light fittings. You should still be able to find a LED bulb to fit. It is better to buy the new bulbs from a local supplier. Some of the products sold on the Internet are inferior and can fail which defeats the purpose.



How to Change to LED Lighting

The costs of changing to LED lighting can be expensive, especially if you need to change the fittings. It might be worth taking a [payday loan](#) to switch over because you will be saving much more in the long run. In some cases you can just use an adaptor, but the latest LED bulbs do not make it necessary. However, if you do want new fittings and are comfortable dealing with electricity then changing fittings is quite easy.

It does become difficult if you want to alter the configuration of lighting. This is when you will need to use an electrician. Removing one wall lamp and replacing it with another can cost around £65 and will take about half an hour. But, fitting four dimmable wall lights from scratch can take around one and half days and will cost you up to £600. And, you still have to supply the new fittings.

As you can see, the labour rates for electricians are costly. However, due to the dangers of messing with the electricity supply, it is worth the cost if you need extensive changes. If you need a payday loan to cover the costs you can [click here](#) to apply for affordable credit with Cashfloat.

Electrical Repair for Lights

When something goes wrong with the lights, it is tempting to ring the electrician. But, there are some checks you can make before doing so. If you are systematic and logical in your approach, you will be able to identify what is wrong and may be able to fix it yourself.

Most modern homes have a fuse box which is a circuit breaker type. This means that when something goes wrong, the fuse switch trips down and you need to reset it. Older homes may have a fuse box with individual fuses that need fuse wire. All fuse boxes incorporate several circuits i.e. different fuses for power points, lights and heavy electrical appliances like the washing machine and cooker. If you have an electric shower, this will also be on a separate circuit as will an alarm or outdoor lights.

Diagnosing Faults With Lighting

When a fault happens, the fuse may blow or trip out. If it continues to do so after being reset or fitted with new wire this points to a fault with the appliance or the lighting system.

Faults can occur when there is too much electrical current or too little. Overloading a circuit i.e. running too many appliances using a multi adaptor can be the cause of the overload. Alternatively, there may be a short circuit. This occurs when two live wires are touching, or, a live wire touching something else.

Here are some common faults that occur with electric lighting, and how to fix them yourself. Note of caution: always, always turn off electric lights before attempting any repair.

Common Faults with Lighting

The lighting circuit will not reset

If the lighting circuit will not reset and continues to trip out, it might be because heat has damaged one of the light fittings. Using bulbs that are too high in watts can cause heat damage, which makes the lighting cable brittle. Brittle cable results in damage to the insulation of the wire. This causes the circuit to trip out.

The easiest solution to this problem is to replace the whole fitting or the damaged cable. Never attempt any fix unless you have turned off the electricity as this is energy that can kill. Other causes of failure are damp in the wires which will appear corroded.

Water and electricity is a lethal combination. If this happens, you need to ascertain where the damp is coming from. Fix that problem before replacing the light fittings and cable. Water that is touching live electricity will carry the electrical charge. Never touch wet electrical appliances, as you can get a lethal electric shock.

Lights that will not switch on

If a light does not work when you switch it on, the first thing to check is the bulb. It may be that it simply needs a new one fitting. If the bulb has not blown, you need to check if power is getting to the light fitting. You can use a voltage checker to see whether the power is live.

Next, try checking the light switch as there may be power there but it is not getting through to the light fitting. This can be caused by a faulty switch and often occurs in those that incorporate dimmers.

Modern downlighters

that have a low voltage soon show signs of wear and tear. This becomes apparent when the contacts show as discoloured black or brown. Downlighters that are not looking shiny and new may need replacing.

Screw-in lights

screw-in light bulbs suffer from poor electrical contact. The brass contacts may be pulled apart due to wear, or they can oxidise causing weak contact. You can try to clean off any corrosion and move the contact springs closer together to cure the problem. However, once again, any repair of this nature should never be undertaken unless the power is totally switched off.

Outdoor lights

Any outdoor lighting will have different fittings. These will be waterproof. But, these particular kinds of fittings can also suffer from corrosion and cause the lights to fail. Short circuits caused by corrosion in outdoor fittings will be a persistent nuisance. It is better if you simply replace with a new system.

Recognising Wiring Colour Codes

Before making any attempts at repairs for lighting or any other home appliances it is important to understand the colour codes for wiring. These codes were changed to come in line with EU regulations in 2006.

It is possible that some older properties still have the old system which featured three wires in plugs that were red (live), black (neutral) and green (earth). The new system uses brown for live, blue for neutral and a striped green/yellow for the earth.

The condition of cables is essential to the safe use of home appliances. Any home that has wiring based on the old system should be fully rewired. Most of these wiring systems are more than fifty years old and will be unreliable and almost certainly dangerous.

Get the wiring in your home checked out once every ten years. Only ever employ a qualified and competent electrician to do the inspection. Following these few guidelines, you can be sure that your home is safe and be confident that no one will come to any harm because of faulty electrics.

TV Repairs - What You Need To Know Before You Call the Repairman



HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER 14 | TV Repairs - All You Need to Know Before You Call the Repairman!

CashFloat

TV no longer working like it used to? Don't get frustrated by this anymore. Learn with Cashfloat how you can fix the problems, do TV repairs yourself and save money at the same time.

Story highlights:

- *Find common problems with flat screen and CTR televisions and how to do DIY TV repairs.*
- *Got bad TV reception? Find out what you can do to improve it.*

The last thing you need when you sit down in front of your TV after a long, hard day is technical problems. But they happen to the best of us and they can cost a fortune to fix. Unless, of course, you have inside knowledge of where the common problems are and how to fix them easily. Below you can find the best on DIY TV repairs.

If you still have a cathode ray tube TV, and you don't want to replace it just yet, you can find tips on how to fix common problems too.

DIY TV Repairs

TV repairs – Cathode ray tube

Is a cathode ray tube TV worth mending or is it time to move on and buy a modern replacement. These are the questions you might be asking if you own an old-fashioned TV set. So, the first thing to look at is what could be wrong and whether you can fix it easily.

1. There is no picture on the screen

If you turn on your set and there is no image on the screen there are some obvious things to check. Firstly, make sure that the connections to the power source are secure and working. If this is fine, then check the settings.

The settings on a CRT TV are brightness, contrast, sharpness and vertical/horizontal line settings. If these are all fine, then there is not much else to do except to call an engineer.

2. Poor quality picture that appears to be sent

Poor picture quality is a common problem that often crops up with CRT TVs. This happens when the internal convergence circuit is faulty because of bad connections. You can fix this (or get an engineer to fix it) by doing a little soldering. Alternatively, the poor quality picture could be due to resistors or fuses that are faulty. You can get this repairs at a low price but you will need to get an expert to come out and fix them.

3. A horizontal line or vertical line on the screen

These lines can be caused by a burned out coil or a loose connection. An engineer can replace the faulty part. The other part that can fail is a capacitor. You can buy a new coil at little cost. No need to take a [payday loan in the UK from a direct lender](#) to replace your TV! However, although these kinds of parts are not expensive, they are becoming more rare, and you will also need to pay for the engineer's time.

4. A crackling noise and smell of burning

If you turn on your TV and experience this disturbing fault, then it is almost certainly due to the failure of the cathode ray tube. Arcing between the high voltages causes the noise, and the heat on the wire insulation causes the smell. If this happens, you should immediately turn off your TV and call out an engineer. Failure to do so could cause a fire.

5. Shadows on the edge of the screen

Old TVs that are CRT models can often feature colourful shadows on the edges of the screen. If this happens, it is because there is a magnetic field close to the model. Any high powered magnetic device can cause permanent damage to the screen so be careful what you place close to your TV.

There are many magnets in appliances. You would expect to find them in computers, but they are also in vacuum cleaners and telephones as well as hidden ones in gym equipment and other common household goods. Check for magnets before placing anything close to a CRT TV.

6. Poor quality sound or no sound at all

Although a less common problem, poor quality sound or no sound at all may be for a variety of reasons. There could be faulty speakers, or the amplifiers may be having problems due to low voltage. Faulty wiring is another common cause of poor quality sound on a CRT TV. A good engineer should be able to fix all of these problems. But, if you are experiencing problems on a regular basis it might be time to replace your old TV with a modern flat screen version. It might be worth taking a [quick and easy short term loan](#) so that you can afford a newer model.

TV screen repairs

Flat screen TVs have one of three types of screen. There are LCD (Liquid Crystal Display), LED (Light Emitting Diode) and PDP ([Plasma Display Panel](#)). All of the screen types can have problems although modern TVs do not have so many problems as the old CRT TVs.

Below you will find a list of common problems that can occur with modern TVs and some tips on how to fix them.

1. My television is turning on and off intermittently

There are various reasons why a TV may turn on and off without warning. There could be unwanted signals being received so check if this happens when you cover up the sensor at the front of the TV. Try unplugging the television and then switching it back on to see if this cures the problem. You should also make sure that the batteries in the handset are not causing intermittent signals. Change the batteries on a regular basis.

If you have recently bought some new equipment, it could be interfering with the TV signal. Try removing anything new from the immediate area and see if this cures the fault. You can identify which piece of equipment is causing the problem by adding each one back into the area one at a time.

2. Patches of colour on the screen

If there are magnets near your TV, they might cause spots of colour on your screen. Magnets are usually found in audio speakers, so don't put your speakers right next to your TV screen. If this does not get rid of the problem, then try slapping the patch of colour with your hand. Any rings of colour that appear with waves will mean that the screen is damaged. If the colour patch is distracting it could be time to buy a new model.

3. No sound when the TV is on

The first thing to do when you have no sound is to check the settings menu. It is possible that someone accidentally changed the sound setting.

If the sound settings are ok then there could be a larger problem, and you may have to call an engineer.

4. You have sound but no picture

Try increasing the brightness and contrast colour, but if there is still no picture, you can check that all the wires are plugged in correctly to the right sockets. If this doesn't help you, there is not much more you can do except call someone to do professional TV repairs for you.

5. Images that are discoloured or not moving

Discoloured images can be fixed by reconfiguring the picture settings. Use the contrast, brightness and colour saturation to get a perfectly balanced image.

If the wiring is loose, it will also cause dis-colouring. So check all connections are tight and that should sort out any problems with the picture.

6. Picture interrupted by poor reception

Poor reception will cause constant interruptions with TV pictures and can ruin your night especially when you want to see your favourite program. It is always worthwhile having a high-quality aerial fitted. You will get an improved signal strength and reduce any ghosting.

7. Screen is covered by black bars

Black bars on your screen is caused by compatibility, i.e. the movie or game you are using was made to be used on a different kind of display. There are no safe TV repairs that can fix this. You simply have to use the compatible device to stop seeing those black bars.

8. Imaging is stuck

Picture imaging that is stuck is quite a common issue with modern TV. Sometimes you can fix it by turning the model off and on again. Check the cable connections and if there is still a problem and the image is slow or lagging behind the sound then call out a qualified engineer.

Problems with digital TV reception

There are also some problems associated with digital TV reception. You can resolve these problems by checking that connections are secure, that the SCART lead is properly connected and that the aerial is pointing in the right direction.

Satellite TV reception often suffers when the weather is bad, i.e. when there is heavy rain. In this case, it is just a question of sitting it out and waiting for the rain to stop.

If digital cable [TV signal is poor](#), try following the steps below to fix it.

TV has no signal? Here's what to look out for!

- Make sure that the TV is connected to the cable box
- Make sure the TV is on the right input
- Make sure that the cable box is on
- Make sure that the TV is set to the right channel (for snowy pictures)



Should I pay for TV repairs, or should I replace?

When your flat screen TV runs out of warranty and it has a fault most engineers will suggest replacing it. TV repairs for a cracked screen should only cost a couple of hundred pounds. But, with prices for new TVs getting lower every year it is probably not worth doing.

There is always the option of buying a second-hand flat screen TV. But, unless the seller is offering any warranty e.g. at least three months, you will be taking a risk that the TV breaks down.

TV repairs near me

When looking for a repairman to fix your broken TV you want to find someone local, because if you are not happy with the repair, it will be easier for the technician to return. Also, if you find someone local, the repair is likely to take place quicker. Looking for TV repairs near me? You can find a technician near you by looking in the local newspaper, many local reputable repair companies advertise their services in the papers.

You can also search online but you might be required to complete a form on the website to state the problem. Alternatively, you can search through your local phonebook for a technician that is close by. Make sure to get an estimate quote from each one and compare. Also, ask about any call out charges and fees for parts.

How much does a new TV cost?

A new flat screen TV from a low-cost retailer costs around £129. So, unless your TV was very expensive and is very large, it is probably not worth repairing.

A reputable TV engineer will be able to advise you whether or not you need to replace your TV. Don't attempt DIY repairs unless you have received training. Like all electrical appliances, TVs can cause electric shocks so do not mess with these powerful machines unless the power is disconnected.

Simple Laptop Repairs That YOU Can Do Yourself!




HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON
FIXING HOME APPLIANCES

CHAPTER

15

DIY Laptop Repairs – Find Out
When YOU Can Fix Your Laptop

 CashFloat

Has your laptop just failed on you again? You don't have the money right now to replace it or pay for repairs. Cashfloat have you covered with our simple and easy DIY laptop repairs.

Story highlights:

- *Many problems with laptops are easy and safe to fix yourself.*
- *Your laptop still has a chance of survival if you spill liquid over the keyboard.*

Oh no, is it your laptop making those strange noises again? Not sure how you are going to finance the repair? Why not try to solve your problem yourself and get your laptop back up and running again in no time and at no cost at all! Cashfloat cover all broken laptop scenarios and a clear step by step guidance for you to make the repair yourself – of course this is if the repair is safe for you to do. Read on to find out how.

DIY laptop repairs that can save you money

Laptop repairs can be a bit hit and miss. If the laptop is more than two years old it may not be worth repairing. This is true especially if you need it for work and require fast and efficient hardware. These kinds of appliances have a short lifespan and soon become outdated. However, some simple problems can be fixed. Unfortunately, the motherboard is not one.

How to diagnose laptop problems

Problems with the motherboard on a laptop

Problems with the motherboard on a laptop are expensive and difficult to fix. Most problems are caused by overheating so try to make sure that you have your laptop in the best possible location where it will not overheat. You can buy a stand with a built in fan which helps to prevent overheating.

Problems with the operating system

You have switched on the laptop, and it sounds fine. The display looks normal, but it won't boot up. In this situation there are ten steps you can take to see if your computer is undergoing [common software problems](#). There could be a problem with the OS.

Run Windows in safe mode to diagnose whether or not there is a fault with the driver or registry. The easiest solution is to reinstall the OS. There is plenty of advice online how to go about this workaround.

Failure of the hard drive

The data on a laptop is stored in the hard drive. There are a number of warning signs before this fails. If the screen is frequently freezing or the laptop is running very slowly, or if you hear strange sounds, these are all warnings that something could be about to go very wrong.

If the hard drive is about to fail it is important to back up all files and data before it all disappears. A laptop that is over three years old is going to be very outdated and is probably not worth repairing. The best option is to buy a new device and install all your files from the back up. New laptops are now relatively cheap compared with those purchased five years ago. You could be pleasantly surprised at the cost of a replacement model.

Computer cables and the battery

Something as simple as a broken cable can cause a laptop to stop working so check these before anything else. A cable does not cost much to replace. But, a laptop battery is something else. The battery is simple to replace but is quite costly so it is better to research whether a new laptop would be a better option. Some laptop batteries can cost £80. You can buy a new cheap laptop for £199, so this is something to think about before replacing the battery.

Problems with the RAM

The RAM is the short term memory storage on a laptop. If you have problems with random crashing, or the machine does not reboot, the RAM may be faulty. You can test this by running a memory test using an app that is available online.

Laptop screen repair

A broken laptop screen can be replaced. Again, you can look up how to do this yourself by searching online for a tutorial. But if you choose to go to an expert it will cost around £105.

As you can see, there are lots of problems that can occur with a laptop. But, the simple ones can be fixed quite cheaply. Just having the knowledge of how to fix your laptop yourself can save you from taking out a [short term loan](#) to finance the repair or replacement.

Spilled liquid on a laptop

One of the most common problems that occur with laptops is a spilled drink over the keyboard. If this happens, then keep calm and assess the damage. If you can still see images on the screen and no sparks are flying around, immediately unplug the device. Do not touch with wet hands as this can cause an electric shock even after the power has been cut off.

Remove the battery and then leave the device alone for at least half an hour. If there is no sign of a burning smell or smouldering, then it is probably safe to assume that the laptop is not going to burst into flames. You can now assess how much damage has been done. If your laptop has been damaged beyond repair and you are in need of an urgent replacement but won't have the funds until the next payday, you can [click here](#) to apply for an affordable loan from Cashfloat.

What spilled on your laptop?

If you [spilled water on a laptop](#), there is more chance of the laptop being only slightly damaged. But, if the liquid was coffee or tea with sugar then you may require an expert to look at the machine.

When everything is dry you can try turning on the machine to see what happens. But, if there are any flames or smoke you should make sure that you disconnect the machine at the wall. Do not touch the power cords as this can be extremely dangerous. There are also chemicals inside a laptop. These can cause problems with breathing when a fire breaks out. So, don't take any chances.

A laptop that has been drained of liquid and dried out may not work again, but you may be able to recover the files. This is a job for an expert. Costs vary, but if there is no significant damage, then a drying out repair is around £45. You can try to immerse your laptop in rice as the rice sucks out any water. It is likely that your laptop may work again after sitting in a bowl of rice for a few days.

Decided to repair? Finding laptop repairs near me

If you have chosen to repair your laptop over replacing it, you will want to find an engineer that is close by. This will help you to get the repair done fast, and if you are unhappy with the repair, the engineer is more likely to return. Follow these tips below to finding a reliable engineer.

Ask friends and family: The first place to start looking for a reputable engineer is amongst friends and family. They may be able to recommend someone that they have used or heard of someone that has a good reputation.

Search through the local press: You can find good engineer companies from advertisements in the local press. Finding a local engineer makes it far easier to ask them to return if you are not happy with the repair.

Online Search: Conduct a localised Google search for laptop repair companies or independent technicians. You can also use trusted websites that list local appliance repairs. You might have to fill in a form on the website to state the problem.

Conclusion

If your laptop is over 3 years most engineers would recommend you to replace the appliance and not invest in a repair. Tried everything to save your laptop, but you are unable to repair it? You don't have the means to replace your laptop? You can borrow a [small loan for bad credit](#) from £500 to £1000 with Cashfloat today!



Wishing you the best of luck with all you home appliance repairs!

The help and advice included in this eBook arm you with the information you need to save money on both repairs and replacement of expensive home appliances. Nevertheless, it is important to stress that you should never undertake a dangerous repair on your own. Electricity can kill, so never attempt to repair a device while it is plugged in. When in doubt, it is always better to call for an expert to fix home appliances.