

Protect thermostat valves and limit the temperature

Settings on thermostat valves in public zones such as corridors, toilets or showers are often changed. Mechanical stress and the risk of theft are also higher in these areas.

Action

Protect the thermostat valves against changes, and use a theftproof design.

Requirement

Radiators or underfloor heating are controlled by thermostat valves.

In buildings, every additional degree C increases the heating costs by 6 to 10 per cent.

What to do

On some models, the thermostat head has to be removed to set limits; on others, the setting can be made with the thermostat head still installed (see the installation instructions).

1. Set the temperature limit

A: Restrict the temperature range

- The “lower limit” is defined by a pin or clip (usually coloured blue) (e.g. level 2, approx. 17 °C).
- The “upper limit” is defined by a second pin or clip (usually coloured red) (e.g. level 3, approx. 20 °C).

B: Block the temperature at a fixed value

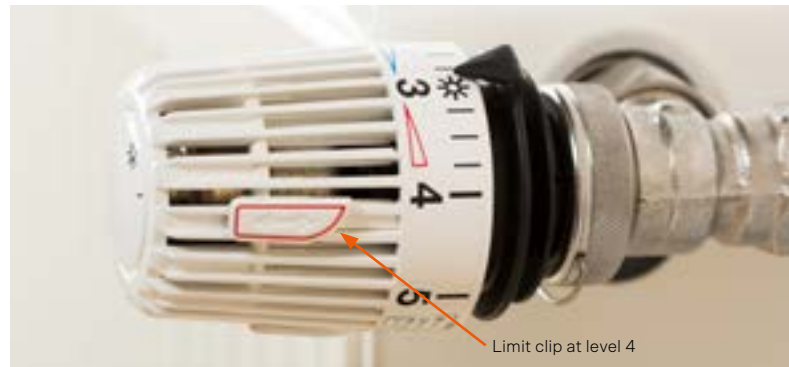
- If you select the same temperature for both limit values, the thermostat head will be blocked. For example: if you set level 3 for the “lower limit” and level 3 for the “upper limit” as well, the head can no longer be rotated and the temperature is set to approx. 20 °C.

2. Cancel the temperature limit

Remove the pins or clips

3. Theft protection

Install any caps or protection that may be needed (These can be obtained from the heating installer)



Costs – effort

- Your own labour for one room with three thermostat valves: ¼ to 1 hour
- New thermostat head: approx. CHF 50 to 80
- Valve and thermostat head: approx. CHF 120
- The entire heating system must be drained and refilled so you can install the new valves. In this case, it is best to replace all the valves in the building at the same time.

Please note!

Make sure that the same temperature is set on all thermostat valves in the same room. (Mechanical) thermostat valves from different manufacturers basically have the same structure. However, they differ as regards design (fixing, setting options) and scaling (temperatures). All manufacturers' websites offer good, easily understandable instructions on operating their products.

Additional explanations

Public building models

A “public building model” is more robust than a conventional thermostat valve. Also, the modifiable temperature can be restricted within a specified range (e.g. 18 to 20 °C), or set to a fixed value (e.g. 19 °C). This prevents anyone from making unwanted changes to the settings. Public building models of this sort require a special tool (such as a special screwdriver) or explicit specialist knowledge about releasing the lock.

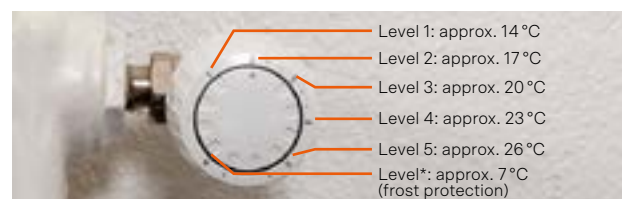
Important: The use of public building models in offices and meeting rooms has not proven successful in practice, because complaints have increased considerably. Install public building models in public zones such as corridors, staircases, toilets and showers.

Theft-proof models

Public building models have integrated theft protection. They are also vandal-proof, and they can withstand loads of up to 100 kg thanks to their better bending strength. “Public building caps” are available to protect various conventional thermostat valves and electronic actuators.

Temperature setting

You will see that the thermostat valves are only marked with numbers or bars, but no specific information is stated about the temperature settings. The scaling may differ slightly from one manufacturer to the next, but the principle is similar for all these devices. Here are some guidance values to show approximately which temperature is set in which position:



The “right” room temperature

The following temperatures are valid as guidelines for rooms/spaces accessible to the public:

- Warehouse, basement: 16 °C
- Areas where people circulate: 17 °C
- WC, showers: 20 to 23 °C

