ENERGY PIONEER

Independent advice on energy saving, home automation & sustainability



COOLING/HEATING

With these settings you get more out of the **ELGA**

By Luuk Oosterbaan on April 28, 2018





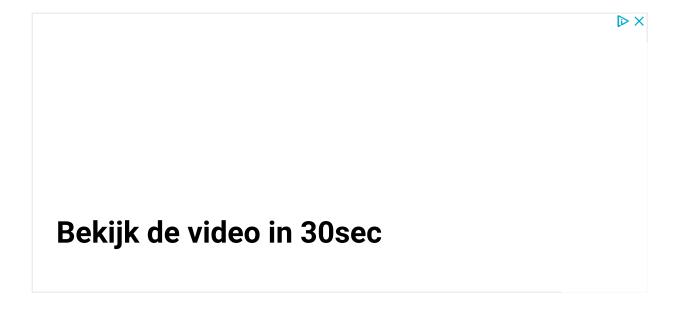


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The ELGA is a fantastic device to reduce gas consumption. It is almost always better to heat with a heat pump compared to a gas boiler. Not for the wallet, but for the environment. Still, the standard hybrid configuration does not get the most out of the ELGA.

In order for the ELGA to work in all installations, the default settings have been set very carefully. That way you have the least chance of malfunctions or complaints. If you like to delve into the system a bit, you can ensure that you save a lot more gas by adjusting the following settings.



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Press 'SETUP' on the screen.

Press the blank between 'READY' and 'SCREEN' for 5 seconds.

Use the arrows to select: 'SET BOILER' or 'SET SETTINGS'.

Reduce ELGA shutdown temperature

If it is colder than 4 degrees outside, the ELGA will stop working and the gas boiler will do the work on its own. This point was once chosen when gas was still considerably cheaper compared to electricity. Above this temperature, you will also hardly be bothered by freezing outdoor units and the outdoor unit is still fairly quiet. For a number of years this ratio has been changing due to taxes, as a result of which gas has become relatively more expensive compared to electricity.

A freezing outdoor unit is not a problem. A protection is built in for this that ensures that the outdoor unit defrosts again. In terms of sound, you will have to test whether it remains acceptable when it is quite freezing outside.

With new software versions you can determine the temperature up to which the ELGA continues via the Thermostat. In older versions you can only disable the 4



degree limit with a dip switch. Up to about -7 , the ELGA is even $\underline{\text{cheaper than gas}}$.

P62 Reduce heat pump shutdown temperature from 4°C (calculation method: 4°C – P62 = shutdown temperature) (range: 0-20, recommendation: 11)

Increase degree minute limit

The Elga has a degree-minute regulation. It starts to count when the room temperature falls below the set value. The control switches on the boiler or district heating when the limit is reached. This can be after a very long time because there is only a very small

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If you would like to give the ELGA a little longer to heat up standalone, you can increase that limit a bit. This can be a useful adjustment, especially with (slow) underfloor heating.

P84 Degree minutes switch on the boiler in thermostatic mode (range: 10-120)

Reduced desired room temperature

If the "reduced room temperature setpoint" function is activated on the Elga, the control will recognize a desired room temperature lower than 19°C, but higher than 10°C, as "reduced temperature".

The Elga will then only use the heat pump to maintain this temperature in the home; the boiler is blocked for space heating provided the outside temperature remains above the outside temperature limit of the heat pump.

The usefulness of applying night reduction depends very much on the insulation value and type of climate system of the home. In well-insulated homes with underfloor heating, it is generally advisable

to apply little or no night reduction. In homes with normal or poor insulation and radiators, the use of night reduction is recommended.

So if the temperature on the thermostat is set below a certain limit, this can be regarded as night temperature. This means that the boiler is not switched on, but the heat pump runs stand-alone. This allows the temperature to drop further than set, but no gas is used.

This is not enabled by default and must be enabled via a dip switch. However, when the outside temperature falls below the switch-off temperature, gas can still be used. So carefully choose the switch-off temperature and the night temperature.

Dipswitch A4 on on (to the back of the print)

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When the outside temperature is above a certain limit, you can choose not to have the gas boiler kick in at all. Usually it is possible to keep the house warm with only the ELGA from about 8-10 degrees.

P63 Decrease switch-on outside temperature limit for the boiler (calculation method: $40 \,^{\circ}\text{C} - P63 = \text{outside temperature limit}$)
Above the outside temperature limit, the boiler does not switch on (range: 0-50, recommendation: 33)

Radiator Fans

At the lower temperatures at which a heat pump operates, radiators have a lower output. With a radiator fan (from Speedcomfort, for example) or Jaga DBE, the power is increased again and it ensures that more heat can enter the room faster and more. My practical experience in two homes has shown that you actually feel more heat and that the water temperature can be lower.



Adjust pump speed

A heat pump works best if the difference between the supply and return is not too great: around 3 degrees is the ideal working area. Run the pump faster if the difference is large, and slower if the difference is 2 degrees or less. In a hybrid setup, make sure that the whole unit continues to work with the central heating boiler switched on.



You can adjust the pump speed with the red wheel on the

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More settings

These are the most important parameters to set to make the ELGA run more often. If you want to set even more yourself, you can look in the <u>overview of all parameters for the ELGA</u>.

personal advice

Need advice about your own situation? Feel free to contact us via the contact form





Do you have any questions about this article? Feel free to post them below. If you prefer <u>personal advice</u> from me as a sustainability consultant, that is of course also possible. I would be happy to help you with your specific situation.

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