

# ASHP site survey and external planning guide

Practical steps to help you  
assess and prepare for a smooth  
air source heat pump installation.



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# Air source heat pumps (ASHPs) perform at their best when planning and site considerations are addressed upfront. A thorough survey sets you up for a smooth, efficient installation. Here's what to check...

## Site survey

A detailed survey lays the groundwork for a successful installation. Start by assessing the space, access and airflow.

- Measure the available space and check levels to ensure a stable base.
- Identify obstacles and allow clear access for installation and future servicing.
- Plan pipe routes and connections carefully, considering surrounding structures.
- Check ventilation, airflow and any risk of debris build-up.

## Position and clearance

Where you place the unit will affect airflow, maintenance access and long-term efficiency. To position a heat pump effectively:

- Ensure the unit sits level and stable.
- Leave enough space around the unit for servicing and airflow.
- Assess potential vibration and noise impact on the surrounding area.



## Why clearances matter

Correct clearances are essential for a safe, efficient installation. They help ensure:

- Optimal airflow to support peak efficiency.
- Safe, straightforward access for servicing, inspection and repair.
- Reduced risk of refrigerant build-up near ignition sources. This is important with R290 refrigerant.
- Quieter operation by minimising vibration and noise transfer.

## Outside planning considerations

The surrounding space, ventilation and pipework layout all play a key role in a successful installation:

- Avoid enclosed or poorly ventilated areas.
- Maintain clearance from walls, fences and other obstacles.
- Plan pipework runs to minimise bends and maintain efficiency.
- Make sure there's clear access for tools during installation and for servicing in the future.



**A thorough site survey helps you avoid delays and unexpected issues. Factor in ventilation, clearances and workflow from the outset. Careful planning supports a smooth install and long-term system performance.**

## Why MCS matters

MCS (Microgeneration Certification Scheme) is the recognised standard for quality and compliance in low carbon installations.

To access government incentives like the Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS), the installation must be MCS certified. Full eligibility details are available at [ofgem.gov.uk](https://www.ofgem.gov.uk)

Whether you're new to heat pumps or expanding your offering, we understand the challenges. Our MCS Umbrella Scheme helps simplify the process – supporting you with design, compliance and paperwork, so you can focus on delivering efficient, low carbon heating for your customers.



Find out more about our MCS Umbrella Scheme at [baxi.co.uk/mcsumbrella](https://baxi.co.uk/mcsumbrella)



## Get in touch

From training and design to commissioning, aftersales and rewards – we're with you at every stage. Find out more at [baxi.co.uk/backed](https://baxi.co.uk/backed)