

# PIPING HOT

Restored radiators can provide period charm and help tie the design of your home together

**T**owards the end of the 19th century the coal fire was superseded by the cleaner and more effective cast iron radiator. Like most inventions these started out as an expensive commodity and were therefore only seen in wealthier homes. But, their timeless look has ensured a popularity that has not wavered, and they were still being manufactured up until the 1950s.

The Old Radiator Company, which is in its 10th year of business, has the largest stock of original restored radiators in Europe. There are over 4,000 in total to choose from, including unusual ornate items and more traditional column styles. They have a large 3,000 square foot showroom in Kent and they can deliver each item themselves. Not only

does this provide you with a personal touch, but given the weight of cast iron the last thing you'll want is someone leaving your weighty purchase sat on a palette outside your front door.

## All the Range

Their team specialises in the specification, restoration, refurbishment and bespoke supply of original cast iron radiators. This means that all of their products have been pressure tested, and they come with a five year guarantee. They are offered in a wide array of finishes, including the stunning polished bare metal, which highlights the detail of the casting, their complementary stock colours, or you can choose from the Farrow & Ball range or Ardenbrite's metallic paint finishes. Whatever your preference you will be guided through the process to find the right look for your home. Classic Victorian and Edwardian designs are all available, including two, four, six and squat nine-column units, the latter being conventionally used underneath low windows. Or, you can opt for round-topped Princess, Duchess or School styles.

## Sizing Up

Having calculated the BTU or Wattage for your room, The Old Radiator Company can work out what size model you need to provide the necessary heat output, and rebuild one to meet these requirements if necessary. One of the first stages of the refurbishment process is to change the original fittings to modern equivalents to ensure compatibility with today's central heating systems. Plumbers can sometimes be reluctant to use



antique models because they're worried that they will have old, non-standard fittings – you can assure them that with these reconditioned units, this is not the case.

## In a Fix

The Old Radiator Company also offers a full restoration service on any original radiators that you might already have, which includes giving them the finish of your choice. Just give them a call and they'll happily provide a quotation. Because of their expert service you also needn't worry about getting designs that match. With their wide array of stock and their ability to refurbish and rebuild, you can be sure to get a number of units in the same style throughout your home.



## Further Information

For more details on The Old Radiator Company, its products and its services, call 01233 850 082 or visit [theoldradiatorcompany.co.uk](http://theoldradiatorcompany.co.uk). Here you will find informative and professional advice on the refurbishment process, from sourcing through to delivering the product to your home. There is an image gallery which samples just some of the numerous designs and finishes available. It also has information and instructions on visiting their Kent showroom.