

Your thermal camera. A simple guide

Forest Row Energy Co-operative | Hikmicro E01

This little camera "sees" heat, and shows you where your home is losing warmth so you can do something about it. We have charged it, reset it and set it up in English, so it is ready to go.

First, pick the right moment

Thermal imaging only works well in the right conditions:

- A **cold day**, ideally near freezing.
- **Dry and clear**, not raining.
- Your **heating on for most of the day**, so the house is properly warm inside.
- Best at **dusk, in the evening, or early morning**, and not in bright sunshine.

The bigger the difference between your warm home and the cold outside, the clearer the results.

Using the camera, in 4 easy steps

1

Turn it on.

Press and hold the power button until the HIKMICRO logo appears. The live picture comes up on its own after a few seconds.

2

Point and look.

Hold the camera a step back from what you want to check. Warm areas show as bright colours (yellow and white), cold areas as dark colours (blue and purple). The camera also marks the hottest and coldest spots for you.

3

Take a photo.

When you see something worth keeping, press the capture button. It saves the image for us to look at later. Take as many as you like, there is plenty of room.

4

Turn it off.

When you have finished, hold the power button until it asks to switch off, then confirm.

You do not need to change any settings. We have set it up ready to use.

What to photograph

Inside, with the heating on

- Around every window and the frame edges
- Around external doors, and the letterbox
- External walls, especially in corners
- The ceiling and the loft hatch
- Behind and around radiators
- Where the floor meets the outside walls

Outside, once it is dark and cold

- The whole front, back and sides of the house
- Windows, doors and the roof

Tip: take a normal photo on your phone of each spot too, so we can match them up.

Reading the picture

Bright, warm colours where you expect them, such as radiators and warm rooms, are perfectly normal. What you are looking for is **cold, dark patches where it should be warm**, around a window, a door or a gap. That is where heat is escaping. Do not worry about working it all out yourself, that is our job.

Please do

- Keep it dry and handle it gently.
- Bring it, and your phone photos, back to the Parish Council office by 4pm on the Friday.

Please do not

- Point it at the sun or anything very hot, like a fire or the hob. This can permanently damage the camera.
- Touch the lens with your fingers.

When you are finished

Return the camera to Forest Row Parish Council office at the Community Centre by 4pm on the Friday. A member of our team will take the images off it, and we will send you a friendly report explaining what they show and the simple, low-cost steps that would make the biggest difference.

Need a hand? Email info@forestrowenergy.com, or ask us at our monthly drop-in. There is no such thing as a silly question.



This thermal camera programme is funded by The National Lottery Community Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players, we can offer it free to the community.