

January 2008

# Radiant Heat Guidelines

Both solid and engineered flooring products may be installed over radiant heat.

Solid-wood floors should be 4” wide or less. Some solid-wood floor species are more stable over radiant heat than others. Consult the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) for specifics.

Installation procedures over radiant heat vary depending on the type of system. Check to ensure the specific radiant heat system is compatible with wood flooring. Install according to National Wood Flooring Manufacturers Association (NWFMA) guidelines. The radiant heat system must be installed per manufacturer’s instructions.

1. If a concrete slab system, concrete must be allowed to cure and dry a minimum of four weeks before operation of radiant heat system.
2. Operation of radiant heat system should be set to run at 2/3 maximum output for a minimum of two weeks prior to installation of flooring. This will insure that any residual moisture in the sub-floor has “cooked out” or dissipated. This must be done regardless of season or outside temperature.
3. Reduce the heat to 65 degrees Fahrenheit for at least four days prior to installation.
4. Moisture testing must be conducted prior to installation and documented per ASTM test method 1869-89 (calcium chloride) for concrete, or wood moisture meter for wood sub floors.
5. Moisture content of concrete must not exceed 2 pounds per 1000 square feet of area per calcium chloride test (ASTM 1869-89). Wood sub floors cannot exceed 13% and must be within 4% of the wood flooring.

continued

---

**1104 Firenze Street – McCloud, CA 96057**  
**Phone: 530.964.2740 / Fax: 530.964.2745**  
**800.220.9062**  
**TerraMai.com**



**TERRAMAI**

RECLAIMED WOODS FROM AROUND THE WORLD™

January 2008

# Radiant Heat Guidelines

6. Relative humidity of the jobsite must be maintained between 35-55% rh. The use of a humidifier may be required to maintain the proper humidity levels. Failure to maintain proper humidity level can result in excessive drying of the flooring and will void all manufactures warranties.
7. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor, as well as a separate thermostat for individual rooms, is required.
8. An outdoor temperature sensor should be used to adjust water temperature according to anticipated heat loss.
9. Install flooring according to NWFA guidelines.
10. Slowly raise the temperature of the heating system 48 hours after installation, to the preferred operation level/temperature. Maintain this level for at least five days.

---

1104 Firenze Street – McCloud, CA 96057  
Phone: 530.964.2740 / Fax: 530.964.2745  
800.220.9062  
**TerraMai.com**