INSTALLING FLOORING OVER RADIANT HEATED SUBSTRATES

Radiant floor heating is an alternative to traditional forced-air systems, delivering heat directly to the floor surface. The warmth then rises and spreads throughout the room via infrared radiation and convection. These systems can be powered by electric heating coils, circulating hot water (hydronic systems), or heated air.

Installation Methods and Subfloor Integration

Radiant heating components may be integrated in several ways:

- Embedded within a concrete slab
- Sandwiched between a cementitious layer and the subfloor
- Positioned between layers of plywood
- Recessed into underlayment panels
- Placed directly on or beneath the subfloor or finished flooring

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Flooring Considerations Over Radiant Heat

When using carpet or carpet cushion over a radiant heating system, keep in mind that their R-value (thermal resistance) will impact the system's efficiency. To preserve optimal heat transfer, it is recommended to use low-profile, lightweight carpet materials that minimize insulation.

Adhesive Use and Temperature Guidelines

Lighthouse Adhesives products can be applied over radiant heated subfloors if the following conditions are observed:

- **Turn off the radiant heating system at least 24 hours before, during, and 24 hours after installation**. This prevents premature curing and ensures proper adhesive open time and set-up.

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- Once installation is complete and the adhesive has cured, **do not exceed a surface temperature of 85°F (29°C)** on the finished floor. When turning radiant heat back on, do so in 5° increments per hour to desired heat temperature. Higher temperatures can adversely affect adhesive performance and compromise bond integrity.

⚠ **Note:**
This document is for general reference only. While the information provided is based on the industry's best practices, Lighthouse Adhesives does not accept responsibility for any errors or liabilities resulting from the use or interpretation of this guidance.