RADIANT HEAT INSTALLATION GUIDELINES
~ ENGINEERED HARDWOOD ~

Prior to the installation of Laurentian engineered hardwood flooring over a radiant heated flooring system, the following guidelines must be followed in order to prevent unsatisfactory results.

The radiant heat system must be a hydronic (water based) system designed to accept a wood floor. We do not recommend electrical radiant heat systems.

Relative humidity on the jobsite must be maintained between 30% – 55%, five days before, during and after installation. Use of an air conditioning and/or a humidification system will be required to maintain the proper humidity level. Failure to maintain the humidity range noted can result in excessive dryness of the flooring which may lead to surface checking or delamination. High moisture conditions can also cause damage to the flooring.

The radiant heat system should be set to run at 2/3 maximum output for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to installation of flooring to further allow moisture dissipation from the concrete slab. This must be done in both warm and cold seasons.

Before installation (5 days) reduce the temperature to 18ºC (65ºF) and maintain temperature range of 18ºC - 21ºC (65ºF – 70ºF) during the installation.

Installation can be completed using glue-down, floating or staple-down methods, in accordance with the heating system design.

Maple, Hickory and exotic species are not recommended for installation over radiant heated subfloors. Only Oak and Walnut species are approved.

After completion of the installation, wait 48 hours and then gradually raise the temperature of the heating system 1 or 2ºC (2 or 3ºF) per day, over a five-day period, until the preferred setting is reached. It is important to avoid ‘shocking’ the flooring by increasing temperature too quickly at any time.